FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 225 *21 November 1978*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Palestinians Claim Responsibility for Bombings in Israel A 1
Tel Aviv Explosion A 1
'Arafat Chairs Palestinian-Lebanese Meeting in Beirut 19 Nov A 1
'Arafat Addresses Palestinian Workers Conference in Damascus A 1
Arab League Exempts Lebanon From Paying Budget Share A 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Egyptian Anti-Arab Campaign: Pretext to Justify Separate Accords C 1
[AR-RA'Y AL-'AMN 16 Nov]

UAE

Secretary Blumenthal Concludes UAE Visit, Departs C 2
UAE Ministers' Statement C 2
AL-ITTIHAD Calls on USSR To Use Its Influence in Mideast [18 Nov] C 3
Heir Apparent Receives Fatah Official, Sudanese Ambassador C 3
Saudi, UAE Petroleum Ministers Discuss Oil Affairs C 4

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Envoy Comments on Meeting With Lebanese President C 4

YEMEN--PDRY

Soviet Intelligence Sets Up Station on PDRY Borders C 5
[Cairo AL-AKHBAR 16 Nov]
ATH-THAWRI Alleges Popular Uprisings in YAR Capital [18 Nov] C 5

YEMEN--YAR

YAR Leader Receives Soviet Ambassador C 5

EGYPT

As-Sadat Grants Interview to French Television D 1

JORDAN

Husayn Explains Stance on Mideast Situation [DER SPIEGEL 20 Nov] F 1
Begin's Rejection of Egyptian Proposals Criticized F 5

LEBANON

Foreign Ministry Announces New Appointments G 1
Prime Minister Issues Circular on Private Radio Stations G 1
Voice of Lebanon Reports Syrian Firing G 1
ADF Command Issues Report on Security Situation G 2
Lebanese Forces Reject Report G 3
Voice of Lebanon Reports Sporadic Firing 21 November G 3
Imam Musa as-Sadr Reportedly Arrives in Paris G 3

SYRIA

Baghdad Claims Al-Asad To Visit Poland This Month H 1
Kuwaiti Daily: Al-Asad To Visit Moscow To Discuss War Threat H 1
People's Assembly Discusses Development Projects H 1
Arab Popular Conference Chairman Praises Syrian Stand H 1
Information Minister's Statement to Iraqi Daily H 2
Al-Asad Receives Lebanese Chamber of Deputies Official H 3
Kim Il-song Cables Good Wishes to Al-Asad H 3
Deputy Prime Minister Receives Romanian Ambassador H 3
Arab-European Dialog Discussed With FRG Officials H 3
Iraqi-Syrian Subcommittee Resumes Meetings H 4
Damascus Daily Says Syria Not Warmonger H 4

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Algiers Notes Boumediene's Continuing Poor Health I 1
'Very Seriously Ill' I 1
Bouteflika Receives Message From Syrian Counterpart I 1

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Message From Idi Amin I 2
Libya-Hungary Joint Economic Committee Meets in Tripoli I 2

MOROCCO

King Hassan Receives Ribicoff-Led Senate Delegation I 2
Morocco, USSR Sign Fruit Agreement in Rabat I 3
Casablanca Paper Views 'Excellent' Relations With U.S. I 3
[Casablanca LE MATIN 12 Nov]

SUDAN

Official Talks With PRC's Ulanfu Begin in Khartoum I 4
Further Reportage I 4
Socialist Union Resumes Meetings Under Numayri I 5

TUNISIA

Prime Minister Accepts Carter's Invitation To Visit U.S. I 5

WESTERN SAHARA

Saharan Defense Ministry Issues Military Statement I 5

ISRAEL

Begin Outlines Egyptian Demands at Herut Meeting [HA'AREZ 20 Nov] N 1
Begin Reacts to As-Sadat Interview on French TV N 2
Weizman Reports to Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee N 2
Ehrlich Briefs Knesset Finance Committee on U.S. Aid N 3
Cabinet Votes To Sign Treaty Without Egyptian Demands N 3
MA'ARIV Scores Israeli Negotiating Errors in Peace Talks [19 Nov] N 3
MAFDAL To Approve Treaty if Egyptian Demands Withdrawn N 6
New, Hawkish Forum Established in Labor Party [HA'AREZ 20 Nov] N 6
Chairman of Foreign Information Advisory Committee Resigns N 7
Many Israelis Ready To Trade Most of Territories for Peace [HA'AREZ 19 Nov] N 7
AL-Quds Disappointed With Arab Summit Resolutions [8 Nov] N 8
Restraint Exercised Toward West Bank Extremists [MA'ARIV 20 Nov] N 9
Egypt Again Postpones Visit by Gaza Delegation ['AL HAMISHMAR 20 Nov] N 9

IRAN

Senator Blames Lahijan Unrest on 'Outside' Agents R 1
Majlis Deputies Debate Government Program R 1
Tudeh Urges United Action in Antidictatorship Front [L'HUMANITE 13 Nov] R 2

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Stockholm Reports 'Civil War' in Afghanistan S 1

BANGLADESH

President Leaves for Official Visit to Yugoslavia S 2

INDIA

Parliament Committee Accuses Gandhi of Contempt of House S 2
Visit of Cuban Foreign Minister Continues S 3
Delhi Banquet S 3
Desai, Malmierca Talk [Havana] S 6
Cultural Exchange Program S 7

NEPAL

CSSR Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives 20 Nov S 7

PAKISTAN

Defense Presentation Begins in Bhutto Murder Trial S 7

PALESTINIANS CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOMBINGS IN ISRAEL

JN201707Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1545 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Our Palestinian revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland have celebrated the first anniversary of the visit of betrayal paid by President of Egypt Anwar as-Sadat to occupied Jerusalem by carrying out three heroic bold operations in Jaffa, Jericho and Jerusalem. One of our groups detonated timed explosive charges on an enemy bus which was traveling from the Dead Sea region near Jericho to Jerusalem. The explosion completely destroyed the bus, killed four of the enemy and injured 37 others, seven seriously. Another group of our revolutionaries detonated timed high explosive charges in the middle of the commerical center of Jerusalem yesterday afternoon. The explosion injured an unspecified number of the enemy, destroyed the entrance of three shops and shattered the glass of several other shops.

A third group of our revolutionaries also placed timed high explosive charges at the entrance of an enemy intelligence office opposite Al-Hamra' Cinema in Jaffa. The charges, which went off yesterday afternoon, injured four of the enemy, cracked a large part of the entrance and the office walls and shattered the glass of a large number of the shops in the area. All our revolutionaries returned safely to their bases after carrying out these heroic operations.

Tel Aviv Explosion

JN210612Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 21 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Occupied Palestine--Some 20 Zionists were wounded when explosive charges went off yesterday in a building belonging to Zionist officers in a main quarter in Tel Aviv. The charges, which were planted by Palestinian revolutionaries, as admitted by the Zionist spokesman this morning, destroyed several apartments of the building. The occupation authorities cordoned off the area, set up roadblocks and arrested scores of Arab workers in Tel Aviv and suburbs. The Palestinian revolution issued a statement claiming responsibility for this operation. The statement says that the elements who carried out this operation have withdrawn safely.

'ARAFAT CHAIRS PALESTINIAN-LEBANESE MEETING IN BEIRUT 19 NOV

JN201524Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1400 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, chaired in Beirut yesterday evening a meeting of the joint command of the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Patriotic Front. The radio correspondent has learned that the meeting dealt with the current situation on the local and Arab levels, especially the results of the Baghdad summit and the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement as well as the Zionist-isolationist moves in southern Lebanon.

'ARAFAT ADDRESSES PALESTINIAN WORKERS CONFERENCE IN DAMASCUS

JN202130Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1940 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Text of speech by PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the opening of the Sixth Conference of the General Federation of Palestinian Workers in Damascus on 20 November--recorded]

[Text] [Words indistinct] wish that our next meeting will be in (?Jerusalem). [Words indistinct] we will meet in Palestine [words indistinct] imperialism and Zionism. [applause]

We are meeting in Damascus, Syria, in revolutionary Syria, in Hafiz al-Asad's Damascus. [applause; shouts in the background hailing Palestinian-Syrian cohesion] The meetings of the General Federation of Palestinian Workers, which is the main support of the Palestinian revolution, are always held here because Syria is an (?extension) of Palestine and Palestine is an extension of Syria, as President Hafiz al-Asad has sais. [applause] This is the basic premise of the Palestinian revolutionary forces and the Syrian armed forces because they are an indivisible whole.

Brothers, there are numerous attempts by world imperialism [words indistinct]. However, [words indistinct] Syria, which supports us against imperialism, Zionism, colonialism, [words indistinct] that the U.S. schemes will (succeed) in the Arab area. However, I recall that at the steadfastness and confrontation conference in Tripoli [words indistinct] and attempts made to cause the conference to fail. President Hafiz al-Asad said that he wants an armed unity of struggle with the Palestinian revolution [words indistinct]. [applause] Our brothers in Libya, Algeria and the PDRY [words indistinct] [applause and background shouts] the landmarks of the road before this imperialist conspiracy which seeks to dominate the Arab area. It does not want to dominate the Arab area only becuase it is of geographic importance. No. [Words indistinct] of strategic importance to the world and its importance of oil reserves. For these reasons, the United States and U.S. imperialism wants to impose its hegemony over the Arab area. [passage indistinct]

Brothers, we should have further coordination and solidarity with our true allies, particularly the socialist countries led by the Soviet Union. [applause] [passage indistinct]

The Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement gives strong impetus and restores the strategic balance which we lost with the absence of the Egyptian army. This absence is temporary. I say temporary because I am confident that the great and noble Egyptian people can only be in the same trench with the Arab nation against imperialism, Zionism, colonialism, monopolies and the United States. [applause]

Brothers, Camp David [words indistinct] then came the Bagdad conference to give [words indistinct] determination which enables it to continue the march. [words indistinct] We will fight [words indistinct] until the Arab flag flutters over Jerusalem, whether Begin likes it or not [words indistinct]. [applause]

Brothers, [words indistinct] the Arab nation is ready to struggle against all forms of [words indistinct]. All the Zionist and U.S. imperialist conspiracies cannot [words indistinct] the will and determination of the Arab nation gave birth to the magnificent results of the Bagdad conference [passage indistinct].

Yes, brothers, the battle is long, difficult and hard. However, [words indistinct] at one point the Nazis reached the gates of Alexandria. [Words indistinct] the fall of one of our fronts does not mean that the Arab world will (?surrender). No. Carter, Begin and everybody in this region should understand that [words indistinct]. [applause]

We know that this road is hard and full of sacrifices and hardship. However, the truth is that the Arab nation is a united nation with an immortal message. [applause] [passage indistinct]

Nobody will agree to this self-rule. There is not a single child or woman among the Palestinians or the Arabs who will agree to this self-rule. [Words indistinct] what happened at Camp David was to give legitimacy to the Zionist occupation and to the slavery of our people. We will not agree to this. [passage indistinct]

Dalal al-Mughrabi was 17 years old. She was born outside Palestine. She chose how to die. She died in Palestine, the homeland of her fathers and grandfathers. This is the example which can be emulated by the revolutionaries in the Arab nation. Everyone must understand that no one can achieve peace and stability in the region or impose the terms of Begin, Dayan or Sharon in the region. [Words indistinct] at one time they told President Hafiz al-Asad to make a unilateral withdrawal. Al-Asad refused to do so and announced in 1976 the militant unity with the Palestinian revolution. This has a meaning [words indistinct] [applause]

Brothers, the battle is long and arduous but no one believes we will capitulate and accept the logic of surrender which they attempt to impose upon us. [Words indistinct] no one can impose his logic on this revolution. This revolution is a giant revolution, and no one can his logic on it. Neither Carter, Begin and As-Sadat can impose anything on this revolution.

This revolution is the true expression of our Arab cause. This revolution is not of Palestinian nationality. Now the Palestinian revolution is an identity card of struggle for the Arab nation. It is even a card of struggle for all free and honorable men throughout the world. [Words indistinct] we are not only Palestinians; [applause] we are an integral part of this immortal nation of the Arabs. We are part of the march of the free men of this world. That is our pride and the Palestinian pride, and we will live up to this ideal and preserve it. We will preserve the banner of our revolution.

[Words indistinct] he was able to raise the Vietnamese flag over Saigon [words indistinct]. The U.S. commander needed 3,000 pilots to control the Vietnamese fighters. The result was that one of those planes picked up the fleeing U.S. ambassador from the U.S. Embassy roof. [applause] Let them give Israel F-15's or (?Lance missiles) or the laser or the internationally banned incendiary bombs [words indistinct]. They can give the Israelis F-15's or F-16's or even F-26's but in one of their planes the U.S. ambassador will flee from Jerusalem because the Palestinian forces, the Syrian forces and the Iraqi forces will reach Jerusalem.

I would like to make one observation. Brother Fathi has forgotten to greet the Arab Workers Federation. The Palestinian Workers Union is an integral part of the Arab Workers Federation. [applause] Allow me to greet in your name, the Arab Workers Federation, which was the first to confront the plot--As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem [words indistinct]. This federation has taken a true stand, and we greet it from this viewpoint.

In conclusion I would like to tell you that this revolution will remain true to its covenant. It will remain a representative of the revolutionary spirit in the Arab nation a revolution representing the progressive spirit in the Arab nation. This revolution represents the spirit which will not slacken until the Arab forces, the Arab citizens and the Arab revolutionaries plant the Arab revolution flag [words indistinct] which is not coincidentally the flag of the Palestinian revolution. [applause] [Words indistinct] until the flag of this Arab nation is raised over Jerusalem whether the imperialists like it or not. It is a revolution until victory. [applause and chanting]

ARAB LEAGUE EXEMPTS LEBANON FROM PAYING BUDGET SHARE

NC2016l0Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Nov 78 NC

[Text] The Arab League Council met at noon today at the league headquarters at the level of permanent representatives. The council decided to exempt Lebanon from paying its share of the Arab League budget. The council appealed to the Arab states to pay their shares in the budget.

KUWAIT

EGYPTIAN ANTI-ARAB CAMPAIGN: PRETEXT TO JUSTIFY SEPARATE ACCORDS

LD201525Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 16 Nov 78 pp 1, 19 LD

[Editorial: "The Real Aim Behind the Egyptian Media Campaign"]

[Excerpts] The Egyptian media, acting on a plan laid by its political leadership, is continuing its campaign against Kuwait and is throwing everything in the famous Egyptian media's arsenal of invective at Kuwait and the other Arabs.

These media, as we said yesterday, have forgotten that their "glorious days" are past. They no longer speak in the name of the late President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, who had a tremendous influence on the Arabs and mobilized their masses. They are media allied with the Zionists and advocate surrender to them. While hurling all their abuse at the Arabs they do no more than burn incense for the United States and Israel. Ironically, they are advocating war against the Arabs and demanding surrender to Israel.

What would the Egyptian media have today if the oil countries' officials lost their patience and made public the details of aid given to the Egyptian regime? Or are the Egyptian media so confident that the ethics of these men does not allow them to stoop so low or that their love for the Egyptian people prevents them from making responses and disclosing figures?

But have these people asked themselves where those millions and even billions have gone? No one knows what has become of the money allocated to the "fund for the development of Egypt" which has been paid in full without a single project materializing on Egyptian territory.

The stories about the "war industrialization authority" and the funds allocated to it are more amazing than those of a Thousand and One Nights, stories about which Ashrawf Marwan [former head of the authority] who is fond of traveling by special plane, knows a lot.

We realize that the Egyptian media's indulgence in the campaign against Kuwait and all the Arabs is designed to provoke Arab responses of the same kind so that the regime can excuse itself and find justifications in the eyes of its own people. In fact, the regime's insistence on following this line seems to indicate that it is preparing to drop the fig leaf and conclude a separate peace under the pretext that since the Arabs are quarreling with it it is "forced" to do so.

Naturally, this game fools nobody. Indeed it is an exposed attempt to prove the regime's "cleverness." The Egyptian regime is now doing all it can to incite the Egyptian people against the Arabs and fill them with hatred and rancor so that the regime can take its final step toward a separate peace.

Therefore, by launching this searing campaign against the Arab moderates the regime wants to make sure that a complete break with the Arabs is acceptable to the Egyptian people and thus implement its isolation plan and take Egypt out of the Arab arena so that it will have ties with neither the "extremists" nor the "moderates."

Maybe those who have been following the Egyptian regime's steps since the October War have clearly noticed how this regime has been successively burning its bridges with all the parties that would preserve balance and freedom of action in the Egyptian attitude in both the international and Arab fields. This has led to Egypt's maintaining ties with only the United States and Israel.

The international situation is based on two mainstays--the United States and the Soviet Union. Simple political logic supposes that when a state is involved in a national struggle with international implications it should maintain balanced relations with the major international parties so that its actions can remain free and effective. Contrary to this logic, the Egyptian regime sought to tie itself to a single party, namely the United States. This formula naturally led to Camp David and Blair House and to the forthcoming separate agreement which is a logical and inevitable consequence of pursuing such a policy.

UAE

SECRETARY BULMENTHAL CONCLUDES UAE VISIT, DEPARTS

JN201307Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1240 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 November--Dr Michael Blumenthal, U.S. secretary of the treasury, and the delegation accompanying him left Abu Dhabi at noon today following a 2-day visit to the UAE, during which he held talks with UAE officials on bilateral cooperation in economics, on the world economic situation and on energy. The session of official talks began in Abu Dhabi this morning between the UAE delegation under Shaykh Hamdan Ibn Rashid, minister of finance and industry, and the U.S. delegation under Dr Michael Blumenthal, U.S. secretary of the treasury.

Attending the session on the UAE side were UAE Foreign Minister Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi and a number of senior finance and economy officials. On the U.S. side the session was attended by the members of the delegation accompanying Blumenthal. The session, which lasted two hours, dealt with petroleum affairs, world economy and energy, in addition to other topics of common interest and relations between the UAE and the United States.

Another session of talks was held between Dr Blumenthal and Saudi Petroleum Minister Dr Mani' al-'Utaybah, during which talks touched on the world economic situation and petroleum relations between the two countries.

Planning Minister Sa'id al-Ghabbash also received here this morning the U.S. Congressional delegation accompanying the U.S. secretary and briefed the members on the development so far achieved by the UAE as well as the UAE's future plans in this respect. The discussion also dealt with promoting relations between the UAE and the United States.

UAE Ministers' Statement

JN201329Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 November--Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, has said that the losses inflicted on the UAE as a result of the decline of the dollar amount to more than $400 million.

In a statement he made following his meeting with Dr Michael Blumenthal, U.S. secretary of the treasury, and the delegation accompanying him this morning, Al-'Utaybah said that the UAE will not take any decisions that may have negative effects on state and world economics. He pointed out that he had explained to the U.S. side the UAE stand toward the petroleum issues, especially those pertaining to the OPEC conference due to be held in Abu Dhabi on 16 December. He further said: We have explained to the U.S. secretary our interest in the measures adopted by the U.S. administration and President Carter to back up the dollar. We have also asserted the need to adopt more such measures in order to maintain the purchase power of the petroleum revenues. These revenues were greatly affected by the decline of the dollar price.

Al-'Utaybah then said that the U.S. secretary has explained the U.S. stand regarding the topic of oil prices and his government's measures to control inflation and back the dollar in foreign currency markets. Concluding his statement, the minister stressed the importance of keeping the dollar as a calculating unit for pricing petroleum and said: There is no alternative currency to replace the dollar in this respect.

AL-ITTIHAD CALLS ON USSR TO USE ITS INFLUENCE IN MIDEAST

JN180943Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEW AGENCY in Arabic 0605 GMT 18 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 November--The newspaper AL-ITTIHAD deals in its editorial today with relations between Moscow and Washington and their effects on Third World peoples and the Arabs.

The paper says that continuing news and trial balloons between Washington and Moscow inform us, peoples of the Third World and especially the Arab nation, about crises and tension between the Soviet Union and the United States.

This news and trial balloons have become an established fact of contemporary international policy called detente between the two superpowers. This detente is based in turn on the nuclear deterrent balance and the conviction of the Kremlin and the White House that nuclear and space competition between them has reached or nearly reached a level which excludes military confrontation between them and thus cancels the effects of a first or second blow or a decisive round in the struggle since the rules of such a struggle have reached a level where there will be no victor or vanquished.

However, amid these successive events which are storming the Arab nation and shaping its fate, delineating new boundaries and relations all bearing the stamp of U.S. interests and objectives, the Arab citizen wonders about the Soviet Union's role and asks about the Soviet Union's exercise of its influence.

AL-ITTIHAD wonders about the Soviet Union's role in the latest Middle East developments and about its silence on these developments which has given the U.S. the opportunity to play its role in the political game of the Middle East with unwavering determination. Our nation fully realizes that all the cards to the solution are in its hands and that it is solely responsible through its struggle and sacrifices for shaping its future. However, the Arabs must at the same time give vent to their doubts and anxiety toward this undue silence observed by the Soviet Union on the current Middle East developments.

We take the initiative and affirm that the Arabs want Moscow to exercise its political influence, to exploit its relations with the United States, to exploit the strength of the entire Eastern camp, and to influence strategic decision-making in the United States and West Europe to have decisions emerge which are not prejudicial, as they are now, to the Pan-Arab interests, Arab territorial rights and the right to self-determination. The Arabs also want this Soviet role of support for the Arab cause to be an assisting and effective factor in providing the Arab struggle movement with new momentum on the international level, especially since the U.S. is exercising its role in the Middle East political game with unwavering determination.

HEIR APPARENT RECEIVES FATAH OFFICIAL, SUDANESE AMBASSADOR

JN181522Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 November--His Highess Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, UAE heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the armed forces, received this morning Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, Fatah Central Committee member, who is currently visiting the UAE.

During the meeting, which was attended by Ribhi 'Awad, director of the PLO office in the UAE, a review was made of the Arab situation in general and of the developments of the Palestinian cause in particular.

His highness also received Sulcyman Bavikar, Sudanese ambassador to the UAE. Following the meeting, the ambassador stated that he had conveyed to his highness the greetings of Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri on the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Adha. Relations between the two countries were also reviewed during the meeting.

SAUDI, UAE PETROLEUM MINISTERS DISCUSS OIL AFFAIRS

JN210705Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0635 GMT 21 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Jidda, 21 November--The talks between Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi minister of petroleum and natural resources, and Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, started here last night. The talks between the two ministers revolved around the means to coordinate the oil policies of the two countries in an attempt to bring about the success of the next OPEC conference scheduled to be held in Abu Dhabi. The two ministers exchanged views on a number of issues that will be raised at the conference, the foremost of which is oil prices.

In a statement to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY, Dr al-'Utaybah said that "our viewpoints were identical during the meeting." He expressed satisfaction over the outcome of yesterday's talks. Dr al-'Utaybah said that the outcome of the talks exmphasizes that the two fraternal countries are pursuing a joint policy in various domains and not only regarding oil. He added that this joint policy is based on principles of responsibility toward the world economy as well as that of the developing countries.

The talks between the two ministers are to resume today. Dr Mani' al-'Utaybah will convey a message to Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz addressed to His Majesty King Khalid from UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. The message deals with the forthcoming OPEC conference and with the two countries' positions toward the topics on the conference's agenda.

Dr al-'Utaybah will leave Saudi Arabia for Baghdad and Kuwait following his meeting with Crown Prince Fahd.

SAUDI ARABIA

SAUDI ENVOY COMMENTS ON MEETING WITH LEBANESE PRESIDENT

LD171948Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Nov 78 LD

[Text] Saudi Ambassador to Levanon Shaykh 'Ali ash-Sha'ir has affirmed that the kingdom is extremely anxious to insure the implementation of the Bayt ad-Din conference resolutions with the same positive spirit that prevailed over the conference. In a statement following his meeting with Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis at noon today, the ambassador said that efforts are continuing to stop the escalation of tension in Lebanon. He said that he senses good intentions from all to accomplish such an end.

He declared that he has conveyed to President Sarkis the results of the meetings he has held continuously during the past 3 days with officials concerned with security in Lebanon.

Replying to a question about the date of the arrival of the Saudi new detachments to Lebanon, he said these forces will arrive shortly.

YEMEN--PDRY

SOVIET INTELLIGENCE SETS UP STATION ON PDRY BORDERS

LD171623Y Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 16 Nov 78 p 1 LD

[Text] A special report by the United National Front, which embodies the opposition in southern Yemen says that Bedouin citizens have been expelled from the area and forced to abandon their grazing land allegedly because a Soviet mission for oil exploration has arrived in the area.

The report says that a large Soviet military team has arrived in the guise of an "oil exploration team." The citizens in the area have discovered that the team in question has nothing to do with oil and that in fact it is a team of Soviet military experts. The citizens saw various types of poles and antennas rising in the area, which has led to the belief that a new intelligence communications system covering the entire border area is being established with the aim of spying on Saudi Arabia, Oman and the rest of the Gulf states.

ATH-THAWRI ALLEGES POPULAR UPRISINGS IN YAR CAPITAL

LD181845Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Nov 78 LD/EA

[Text] ATH-THAWRI, mouthpiece of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, reports that the crisis of the San'a' regime is mounting and spreading. In an editorial today the newspaper says that the popular uprisings against political, economic and social conditions are spreading to all parts of the country. The capital, San'a', sleeps through explosions and its streets are empty from sunset onward.

The paper said that the black reactionary San'a' regime has found no means of protecting itself except lashing the backs of the patriots with the whips of our Yemeni people's traditional enemies. Not only is it launching repressive extermination campaigns of mass destruction against the rebellious regions and stockpiling weapons and instruments of death, but it is also importing Western experts and advisers, particularly Americans, to work in intelligence, torture and repression of mass movement.

The paper was confident that the throats of the San'a' rulers will not escape the people who, despite all their wounds and pain, have risen to grip them; the people will soon squeeze these throats until the hired tyrants die.

YEMEN--YAR

YAR LEADER RECEIVES SOVIET AMBASSADOR

JN211333Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Nov 78 JN

[Text] The president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces received in his office at 1030 today Soviet Ambassador to the YAR Vasili Kornev. During the meeting they discussed relations linking the two friendly countries.

AS-SADAT GRANTS INTERVIEW TO FRENCH TELEVISION

NC2014502 Cairo MENA in English 1400 GMT 20 Nov 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, Nov 20 (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat reaffirmed today that he was not after the conclusion of a separate peace agreement with Israel and that he will never approve a separate agreement with Israel. President as-Sadat added if the linkage between the withdrawal from Sinai and the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip was not brought about, this will make our agreement with Israel a separate one, and hence he was not ready to sign it.

President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat in an interview with the French Television Channel 2 directed his talk to Israelis, saying let's get the self-rule starting immediately with the first stage of withdrawal from Sinai, a matter which takes from 6 to 9 months, for this will facilitate matters and so as the celebrations of the first stage of withdrawal from Sinai would coincide with the start of the self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. [sentence as received]

Concerning Jerusalem, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat expressed satisfaction over the message he received from U.S. President Jimmy Carter in this concern, for the message stated that all changes introduced in East Jerusalem are illegal. President as-Sadat said: "This is also my stance."

President as-Sadat added that he belived that we showed good intentions when we declared that Jerusalem would not be partitioned once more and that the holy places for Jews, the Wailing Wall, could be put at their control. The president went on to stress that East Jerusalem with its Christian and Islamic shrines should as well be at the control of Arabs and Moslems.

As-Sadat said that his instructions to the Egyptian negotiating team in case of reaching this agreement or any other documents, the date of the linkage between withdrawal from Sinai and the future of West Bank and Gaza Strip should be deinfed. [sentence as received] The date of the start of carrying out the full self-rule should also be stated in the treaty or any other document, As-Sadat stressed.

President as-Sadat said that differences lie in the Israeli stance which turned down fixing any dates for that, and that the Egyptian stance remained the same, and no changes were introduced to it.

Answering a question on his impression one year after the peace initiative, President as-Sadat said: I shall always consider this trip and this mission a sacred one, and I shall always be proud that this was one of my decisions that I shall always be proud of. I shall never regret this and despite the fact that after one year now, and as our friend has already stated that there are some difficulties on the road to peace, it doesn't mean at all that the initiative itself has lost its significance or has ended--no, not at all.

I shall always remember that before the initiative and before my visit to Jerusalem there was always a situation that I didn't approve of because by nature I don't like hatred or violence or bitterness between me and anyone, and I didn't like it between us and Israel also, especially after we made the October War. So I shall always be happy because whenever I remember this decision and my visit, believe me after that visit and from that visit on until the end of my days I shall not live the bitterness, the hatred or the complexes that are the result of a situation that should have been solved and no one tried to solve it. I shall always be happy with this feeling.

In reply to a query on whether the stance of Menahem Begin had disappointed him since their Jerusalem meeting, President as-Sadat said:

Let me tell you this: I was really astonished of the attitude of Mr Begin after we met in Jerusalem and after he came and visited me here, in Ismailia, I was really astonished and there has been a lot of misunderstanding, for about 10 months or so until we met again in Camp David and we reached this agreement and we signed the two documents of Camp David with the help of President Carter. Really, the man deserved our admiration, all of us because he was really behind all what we have achieved in Camp David. But after Camp David, I don't see except some statements that have been given and have made our approach to the solution difficult at some times. [sentence as received] But on the whole the relations between me and Mr Begin after Camp David are completely different from the relations that have taken place until Camp David, after my initiative.

Replying to a question on his impression toward Israel's Prime Minister Menahem Begin, President as-Sadat said:

"Maybe you have heard, before I made my initiative, I mean before I visited Jerusalem one year before, you will remember that when I related the history I said that I visited Romania to meet with President Ceausescu. He is my friend and he is also the friend of Mr Begin, and I asked President Ceausescu two main questions. The first one I asked: Is the man, I meant Begin, is the man sincere for peace? Number one. Number two question I aksed: Is the man strong enough to deal with? And President Ceausescu told me that Mr Begin was visiting with him before and he can assure me that the man is genuine for peace and the man is strong enough to deal with. Well, that is what I have already done, but it is quite natural that everyone has been loyal to his country. He is loyal to his country, but in the same time he is loyal also to some old ideas that should have been dropped after I made my initiative in Jerusalem, and I said this in the presence of President Carter in our tripartite meetings in Camp David."

Answering a question on whether the personality of Begin has helped or harmed the peace talks, President as-Sadat said:

"Well, before Camp David I can with a clear conscience say that he has done his best before Camp David to eliminate every possibility, even (?though) I don't know if he has made this deliberately or not, I am not discussing this, but this was the fact. But after Camp David I am seeing complete new ideas, in spite of the fact, that as I say there are still some ideas that should be dropped, like we have dropped them here immediately after my visit to Jerusalem."

On a question on whether President as-Sadat still believed that the October War was the last one, despite the existence of some difficulties President as-Sadat said:

Yes. I can say this. I have stated this before. After Camp David I said that the most important thing that has been achieved there, added to the signature of the two documents, is that we have dropped war as an alternative to solving this question. So this was a result of Camp David. And as we have said one year before, in Jerusalem, "let the October War be the last war."

Asked whether the peace negotiations were facing difficulties and the extent of their danger, the president said: Well, let me tell you this, it is a fact that there are difficulties. We are facing difficulties in the negotiations now. There are certain difficulties in the treaty between Egypt and Israel, but these are of no significance and these difficulties could be surmounted easily.

In reply to a query on who should exert an effort to eliminate these difficulties, President as-Sadat said: Both of us should work together, this is in the treaty but the main difficulty really is in the linking between the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, and the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, according to what we have agreed together in Camp David.

On the feasibility of signing a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel in case there was no linkage issue the president said: Yes, we can sign today, tomorrow. Yes, as I told you there are certain difficulties but of no significance, yes minor, exactly as you say. They are minor.

Asked if he did not rule out the signing of a treaty before his departure for Oslo to receive the Nobel Prize, President as-Sadat said: Let me hope my vice-president contacted me the day before yesterday. [sentence as received] He did not contact me yet--and I heard today that he declared that he will be returning today from the United States. I shall not be astonished at all, if we can reach an agreement and sign it before we go to Oslo on the 10th of December, and I shall not be astonished if it is postponed after that.

Replying to a question on the linkage issues, President as-Sadat said: My viewpoint is this on this precise point, namely the linking is that in the agreement that we are going to sign together, either it is in the Egyptian-Israeli treaty or it is in any other document, that we are going to sign: to state in this document a certain fixed date for the linkage according to what we, what our delegation can reach, but I want mainly to link the first phase of withdrawal in Sinai with this full autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and this was what I told my delegation to discuss and negotiate with the Israelis.

In reply to a question on Egypt's proposals concerning the time table, President as-Sadat said:

Before the vice-president left for Washington we had a discussion and we have agreed upon these concrete ideas, and in a meeting that we had in Ismailia the vice-president, the prime minister and me and he [not further identified] went with this. As I told you, he contacted me two days before, after he met with President Carter, and he said everything is okay, because President Carter at a certain point had been perplexed when he contacted me by telephone.

Well, it appears that the vice-president has cleared certain points for him but he did not add any details.

Well, the vice-president has the full authority to do and to work and to initiate after he meets with the American President and the Israeli defence minister in Washington. But did he reach [as received] he did not tell me until this moment, and I am waiting either he will arrive today or he will be sending a report on this.

So the position that I tell you is the position that I have already (?given) to the vice-president three days before when he left for the United States.

Asked about the time of the beginning of the negotiations on the Palestinian problem and when the elections on the Palestinian self-rule would be held, the president said:

Well, first of all I can't put all our ideas and negotiations before the television.

It is a pity.

Yes it is the new, I mean the new, public relations things and so, well, let me tell you this: It is agreed in principle, as we have already when we signed the first document in Camp David, that there will be elections. There will be full autonomy for both parts--I mean Gaza and the West Bank. There is also an agreement between us that immediately one month after the signature of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty--one month--we shall sit together to fix all the details and the modalities of elections, the model of autonomy and exercise, and so this will be a month after the signature of our treaty with Israel. We agree upon this, and the Israelis--we differ only on the date of the elections and the start of the autonomy--the full autonomy. That is what we differ on now. The Israelis wanted to discuss it after one month and we say: What about if we sit one month after the signature and discussed this and stayed discussing it for another two or three years? Well, we want to fix a date for the start of the full autonomy.

In reply to a question on whether Egypt and Israel agree on starting the negotiations on the position of the Palestinians after one month from signing the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, President as-Sadat said:

We shall sit to discuss this according to the Camp David documents. Yes we agreed to this.

Answering another question on whether he believes that elections for the Palestinians would start before a year from signing the treaty, the president said:

I don't differ and I am not raising any problem in the election itself. I have by-passed this problem of the election and I want my delegation, and I gave them the instruction to discuss this with the Israelis--to fix the date of the election because automatically the elections will take place before this date. I am not, I mean, giving the date of the election any importance. I am giving importance to the date of the start of the autonomy.

Asked about the impression that there is a new, hard-line Egyptian position concerning these points the president said:

I don't see any changes in our position. No change at all. The difficulty is that the Israelis do not want to put any dates. They only want to fix only what we have already agreed upon, that immediately one month after we reach, after we sign the treaty between Egypt and Israel, they will sit to discuss. But I, myself, my view as I told you know, is that what will be the result if we sit after one month and negotiating for two years? Well, let us fix the date of the start of the autonomy.

On what the situation will be, if the Israelis would refuse this, the president said:

From the other side, the Israelis, well, it will not be at all our responsibility, and I want to tell you this, I am not for a separate agreement with Israel. If it is a separate agreement I do not agree to it at all. I am not for a separate agreement, because this will make the agreement a separate one if we don't link as we have discussed now. If we don't link the Gaza and the West Bank in the comprehensive settlement and then we sign the Egyptian-Israeli settlement, it will be a separate agreement. I am not ready to sign it.

Asked about if the president would consider that the situation has now become dangerous, the president said:

Yes, I have stated this because this is a very fundamental point of principle. This is the linking.

Asked about the possibility of signing an agreement with Israel, if the Israelis accepted to open negotiations relating to Palestinians a month after the signing of a treaty, and that autonomy should begin simultaneously with the talks, President as-Sadat answered:

I am making it much more easier. I am saying this. As I told you, we have agreed that one month after the signature, we shall sit to discuss the details and modalities of all things.

Saying this, let the autonomy start with the completing of the first phase of withdrawal from Sinai. This will take from six to nine months, I am making it easy like that so that whenever we celebrate the first phase of withdrawal from Sinai, it will be linked with the start of the autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Asked whether President Carter approved this viewpoint, the president said:

Oh, not yet, not yet: for that I told you when he contacted me two days before he was perplexed. But after Vice-President Mubarak visited with him and phoned me, he said that he has clarified this to him.

Asked if President Carter then felt the existence of a new element after Camp David, President as-Sadat answered:

No, it is not a new element at all, it is not a new position at all, because in Camp David we said that the Palestinians shall enjoy the full autonomy. So there is nothing new in this.

Replying to a question of whether Jerusalem may represent an obstacle in the way of the other stages of negotiation, President as-Sadat said:

Well, for Jerusalem have already received the American letter from President Carter and I am quite satisfied because the American letter stated that all the changes that have taken place in the old Jerusalem is illegal. This is the American position, this is my position. I am quite satisfied, but let me tell you this: Jerusalem will be have another [as received] point of difference and difficulty, but I think that we have shown our good will when we say the city shall not be divided again and the holy places for the Jews, namely the Wailing Wall, can be under their control, but the old Jerusalem with the shrines, with our shrines--when I say our shrines it is the Christian and Moslem shrines--should be under the sovereignty of the Arab and the Moslem will, because these are fundamental, historical rites for seven hundred million Moslems all over the world, and as I stated and said that let the city not to be divided again, we have proposed a joint municipal council from the Arab and the Israelis by equal numbers.

Asked if there was a new Egyptian stance concerning the West Bank and Gaza Strip, represented in experimenting the self-rule in Gaza as a first step, to be followed by the West Bank, the president said:

Not at all, why? Because as I told you I am not after a separate agreement with Israel, and I shall not be giving the Soviet Union and his agents the satisfaction of this separate agreement that it started its propaganda for years and years ago when I eliminated its influence here.

Well, we have said this. Why? Gaza and the West Bank should go together, but Gaza was taken from Egypt in the '67 war. You know Gaza was under the Egyptian administration, but we have never joined Gaza, Gaza is a Palestinian land for the Palestinians, every one know this. Well, there is a sentimental element in this. We are responsible for Gaza. For instance, King Husayn and the PLO tried to push th e in the West Bank to refuse the Camp David decisions and agreements. Well, in Gaza, and because of the link that has taken place between them and Egypt historically since the forty-eight war and as we are responsible after Gaza, we said that let us start with Gaza.

Asked on whether Begin deserved the Nobel Prize for Peace the president answered:

Well, you in Great Britain, in Germany, in the United States, in Latin America, all over the world, you have saved me the answer.

Asked if he believed Israel still feared peace, President as-Sadat said:

Before Camp David I was ready to testify that, yes, and Begin himself, but after Camp David, what I see now is really something very peculiar. Let me tell you this as a fact. The Israeli people, the Israeli women that I saw in Jerusalem, they are for peace hundred per cent and no one need to find this. This is a fact, but the difficulty of fearing peace is among some elements in the cabinet and after Camp David it is not Begin's attitude any more. It was Begin's attitude before Camp David, but after Camp David it is not his attitude, but that of certain cabinet ministers there.

Asked on his view on the form of daily cooperation between Egypt and Israel after the achievement of peace, the president said:

No one can imagine to what extent it will reach. Let me tell you this. I have told you that immediately after my initiative and visit to Jerusalem from my side from the side of my people in Egypt here, forty millions, we have dropped all the old ideas and complexes. I am sure as I told you, the Israel public opinion [words indistinct] the Israeli women have done the same like me and my people, still there are some elements in the cabinet or in the political parties. Very well, it will depend upon their attitude. From my side I say that we are open to whatever is mentioned under the word good neighbourhood and even more than that we are ready to do it, but ti will depend upon the attitude of the other party.

Asked on what will be the effect of peace on the economic development process in Egypt, the president said:

For sure the agreement will mean that the military expenditure that we are having now which is very high will come to a limit and we can use the money for the investment and for changing the standard of living of my people. For sure we will benefit from it.

On if Egypt is going to give up production in cooperation with Europe the president said:

Not at all. Are we going to give up defending our country? Are we going to give up building our armies to the most modern technology? We shall not drop this.

On if Egypt would concentrate on acquiring American arms:

Not at all. Let me tell you this: I have already purchased the airplanes from America. They are (?50). But let me tell you this in all candour, whether my brothers in the Arab world will be with me or not my main arms will be from France. This is a fact because I can't depend upon the United States to be the main party that will provide me with the new technology I am depending upon. France, this is my decision.

On the stance by the rejectionist states the president said:

Have you read what they had already said in 1974? After I made the first disengagement agreement in '74 they said this. In '75 they said so, after the second disengagement agreement, in '77, after my initiative to Jerusalem, and I visited Al-Asad in Damascus two days before my visit. They said the same thing today after Camp David. They will be continuing to say this. Well, I never give any importance because, since '74, they never influenced anything, they never changed anything.

[Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1845 GMT on 20 November, adds at this point:

[[Question] Don't you think that the rejectionist states will try to intervene to influence the government in Egypt and hatch plots against you?

[[Answer] I am sorry, really. I am always really wondering why are you believing anyone saying anything. Can there be a coup in France, Britain, or America? This will never happen because you are a democracy and you have a constitution. Egypt here is a democracy.

[[Question] You mean the others do not have this?

[[Answer] The others do not have this. But in Egypt there is democracy. Egypt has its constitution as a safety valve. They are pure dictatorships with concentration camps and liquidations. This cannot happen in Egypt. I am not alone. There is the will of 40 million people here, and they are satisfied with their system.

[[Question] Don't you think that someone might try to carry out an assassination attempt?

[[Answer] I don't exclude this at all because the rejectionist states and the dictators there fear that democracy will be transferred from Egypt to their countries. Therefore, I don't exclude this. I am a man of faith, and no one can shorten a day of my life before its time.]

In reply to a question on France's stand since the Camp David agreement President as-Sadat said:

Well, maybe you remember after Camp David I passed by King Hassan. At that time all my colleagues in the Arab world issued their statements and they were against it before they had read anything about the documents, and it was really very unfortunate. The statement that had been issued by D'Estaing, I really appreciated, and I declared this in Morocco. I said well, my Arab colleagues should have done like Giscard and studied the whole thing and then after that issue. He had made an announcement and it was a logical announcement but, you know, I enjoy the best relations, the best personal relations with Giscard, and my vice-president from time to time goes and gives him the full picture.

On the role of France as for peace efforts As-Sadat said:

Well, we have reached really the point when we need the help of France, the help of Western Europe. But France has always taken the pioneer role in this. We need it, why? Because, as I told you, we have already completed more than ninety per cent and the rest is ten per cent. Well, all our efforts should be joined together to complete this ten per cent.

In reply to a query on the personal qualifications leaders who hold lengthy negotiations should enjoy, the president said:

I say this: In any leader there should be loyalty to his own people and then a vast area of imagination. Without imagination, well, any leader will be just a redtape official working. So, there should be a vast amount of imagination.

President as-Sadat further said:

I am loyal to my country but let me tell you this: give the great importance, before everything, to be satisfied inside myself and with God. Whenever I am satisfied inside myself and with God, whenever I am satisfied inside myself and with God I feel always very strong. And this is the case today. I am always, not only today but always.

By nature I am optimistic. You have heard this. Let me tell you this: Whatever effort is needed to complete the ten per cent I shall be doing it, and you can depend upon me. I think if you depend upon me everything will come to that. We all need and want. I am optimistic in spite of all the difficulties, President as-Sadat added.

On the possibility of starting with Gaza, President as-Sadat said:

For Gaza we said: Let us start with Gaza but the West Bank will be joining with us. But we shall giving some time for King Husayn to come and join us in the process and resume his responsibilities in the West Bank. If he refuses Egypt will proceed in the West Bank as it started in the Gaza. I had given this commitment in Camp David.

On the Israeli (?plan) of setting up a Palestinian [autonomous region], President as-Sadat said:

Let me tell you this: Now the Israelis refuse any Palestinian entity, and for sure they now refuse an independent state. But let me tell you this, and if I live until that moment I shall be reminding you, whenever the Israelis will feel secure, after the signature of our agreement and after the start of the autonomy, one year--not two years, one year I am sure--the Israelis will change. Because autonomy or not autonomy you can't make the history go back. The Palestinians will have their state.

But the question is when will the Israelis feel secure? And then after that it will be easy for them to agree on this issue. But the clock will never go back; the Palestinians will have their independence, will have their entity, by their own free will. And I am sure in one year after the autonomy and the treaty between them and Egypt they will feel secure enough to agree upon this. Because as I told you, there are still the old ideas in the Israeli Cabinet and Mr Begin's mind, among the Israeli population also.

On the possibility of breaking the stalemate in the present situation without holding a tripartite summit conference comprising President as-Sadat, President Carter and Mr Begin, President as-Sadat said:

Well, the deadlock that we are in now is not what we shall reach after the five years. The difficulty now is fixing the date of the start of the autonomy. But whenever this date starts, there will be five years autonomy after that. The question of what will happen after the interim peiod of five years, it is not the problem now. The problem is the start of the autonomy.

On whether he believes that it would be better to hold a tripartite conference, As-Sadat said:

Well, President Carter has declared yesterday that he doesn't aim to ask for such a meeting, but I myself, I shall have no objection.

On the possibility of holding a meeting with Premier Begin, the president said:

I must tell you this: When I receive either my vice-president or his report today I can answer you. But in any case I welcomed any meeting on any level to complete what we have already started and reached ninety per cent in it. It is only ten per cent.

The president added that he has no objection to meeting Begin in any place but not in Jerusalem for he has already visited Jerusalem.

On whether peace became imminent, President as-Sadat said:

No, not at all. I am one of the parties concerned in this. I can tell you even it is much more than ninety per cent, much more than "quatre vingt dix", much more.

The president added: for that I have really answered President Carter on the telephone and I was really very worried, because we have already made ninety per cent of the whole thing. Well why not complete the ten per cent?

On the place the president prefers for signing the peace treaty, President as-Sadat said:

Insisting on Mount Sinai, on my land. This is a sacred land for all of us, for the Jews, for the Christians, for the Muslims. And this will mean the unity for the first time in history. After we had the three important missions from heaven this will be the first time that we sit together. And then, aiming in the same place to start what I described as, I mean a church, a mosque and a synagogue in one premise. And fortunately a week before, I have received a plan for this from an Israeli Jew. Really it was, it is a marvellous plan for this project.

On the possibility of signing the treaty before Christmas, President as-Sadat said:

Let me hope so. Let me hope so. But as I told you it may take time after that. It is okay for me. Even not only before Christmas, let it be before December, in this November. Let us hope so.

On the leaders he should like to join him on this occasion, President as-Sadat said:

For sure, I have invited President Carter to come and join us not only on Mount Sinai but in the signature. I also sent my written invitation to Pope John Paul.

I shall always be thinking when we are going to achieve peace here? If we sign before that date, it will be a very happy occasion for me because I shall be looking forward for peace. Not only on the scale of Egypt and Israel but for the whole area. If this treaty is not to be signed I shall be really meditating when shall we be signing?

HUSAYN EXPLAINS STANCE ON MIDEAST SITUATION

DW201030Y Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 20 Nov 78 pp 164-172 DW

[Wolfgang Gust and Adel S. Elias interview with Jordan's King Husayn in Munich--date not given]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Your Majesty, Egyptian President as-Sadat might sign a peace treaty with Israeli Prime Minister Begin soon. You could have played an important part in it. Why have you refrained from participating in the peace talks?

Husayn: For very logical reasons. From the very outset our efforts have been aimed at insuring that all parties involved in the conflict participate in the talks within the framework of one single Arab delegation. This would, however, have worked only within the framework of the Geneva conference. Then the whole thing derailed, and Egypt, Israel and the United States convened at Camp David. We were absent, as was the other chairman of the Geneva conference, the Soviet Union.

SPIEGEL: Unlike the Geneva conference, which was completely deadlocked, the Camp David conference did produce something.

Husayn: Two agreements were produced. Agreement on the Egyptian-Israeli aspect of the conflict was very clear. The other accord on the future of West Jordan, the Gaza Strip, and the Golan Heights, however, is very unclear, as is the situation regarding the legitimate and holy rights of the Palestinian people. Highly unclear, furthermore, is the passage dealing with Jerusalem, the holy city, which is of great significance to millions of people not only in the Arab world but throughout the world at large.

SPIEGEL: How important do you deem the solution of the Jerusalem problem which Israel would like to set aside altogether?

Husayn: To many people the question concerning the Arab sovereignty of the Arab part of Jerusalem is the main issue of the whole solution. Jerusalem can be the symbol of peace, the meeting place of the believers from all the world. This is why nothing concrete came of the negotiations.

When Israel talks about Jerusalem the rest of the world obviously does not realize that the point at issue no longer is the Arab part of the city as was the case in 1967. More is at stake. A territory has been created which is called great Jerusalem today and which comprises nearly 1/5 of West Jordan.

SPIEGEL: You have sent to the United States many questions for the purpose of elucidating the agreements of Camp David. What was the answer you received?

Husayn: The United States informed us of their own view on some points, but the answers to most questions were vague.

SPIEGEL: In other words, you are not satisfied with the answers of the Americans?

Husayn: I cannot even say that I found them to be adequate. All of 11 years have passed since the adoption of UN Resolution 242 by the Security Council. We Jordanians had accepted this resolution at the time just as the Egyptians had. But in the meantime so many changes have taken place in Jerusalem and the entire territory that something considerably more substantial would have been required to convince us, let alone others.

SPIEGEL: So you continue to reject any participation in the negotiations?

Husayn: These are no real chances for a new beginning. This does not mean that we have slammed the door. We have kept it open, but at present we see no chance. Maybe later, when the two great powers and the other Arab partners affected participate...if it is possible at that time to get things moving again, then we shall do it.

SPIEGEL: As-Sadat, too, intended to get things moving by his journey to Jerusalem. After all, there was no solution in sight then, or did you see one?

Husayn: Shortly after President Carter's inauguration he showed keen interest in our region and in our problems. We have the energy resources the world needs. The U.S.-Soviet paper was drafted, the invitation to Geneva was issued. We in the Arab world had again earnestly started to obtain a common platform. We had already achieved quite a bit just a few days prior to the surprise which President as-Sadat gave the world.

SPIEGEL: At the time the world did not see any headway scored by the Arab states--even if it were only in the representation of the Palestinians, for example.

Husayn: A few days prior to the so-called As-Sadat initiative we Jordanians had come closer to the Syrians, Saudi Arabians, and Egyptians. What we pursued was an Arab position. Naturally the Palestinians must be included if the solution of the Palestinians problem is involved. There is no such thing as a minimal or maximal position of the Arabs. There is but one position, namely, that of the UN Resolution 242. In other words: Israel's withdrawal from all territories which it occupied in the June war of 1967.

SPIEGEL: Withdrawal from all territories without any restriction? This is unrealistic. Do you not see any possibilities to negotiate at least on some individual points?

Husayn: Perhaps some corrections of a minor nature might be possible on the basis of mutuality. But the Arab sovereignty of Arab part of Jerusalem must be restored, and the Palestinian problem must be solved via self-determination. Then there could be peace. Everything that must be discussed would have been discussed on the basis of the quid pro quo principle.

SPIEGEL: This had been your position prior to the As-Sadat journey to Jerusalem. How has it changed as a result of As-Sadat's initiative?

Husayn: Despite the great surprise, we concentrated on the positive results. When As-Sadat made his statement on his objectives I did not find anything wrong with them. It was exactly in keeping with the position which we had discussed earlier. Naturally there were different views in the Arab world. President as-Sadat maintained contacts with us and averred that he advocates a comprehensive agreement and a solution on the line which he had originally pointed out. Hence, the surprise was all the greater about the agreements which then emerged.

SPIEGEL: You are one of the most loyal allies of the West in the Arab world. Consequently, you must be pleased if the United States plays a leading role in the peace negotiations.

Husayn: In this process the United States has always played a leading role. Personally, I fail to see why the Soviet Union was not given an opportunity to contribute to the solution, since both states acted as chairmen of the Geneva conference.

SPIEGEL: Jordan's king as the advocate of the Soviet Union? The United States and the USSR, after all, have entirely divergent interests in the Middle East. A solution in a small circle seems much easier, and you participate in this small circle.

Husayn: After the experiences we gathered in the June war of 1967 and the years thereafter, we really do not harbor any illusions anymore about Israel's attitude. We believe that the Israelis only want to split up the Arabs.

SPIEGEL: As-Sadat, too, wants to avoid this by linking a separate peace to a general solution.

Husayn: We are interested in a solution which the future generations will also accept and not question again. We do not doubt As-Sadat's good intentions or the seriousness of the U.S. President. But everything depends on the Israeli approval and thus is subject to a potential Israeli veto any time.

SPIEGEL: The United States is Israel's most important partner. After As-Sadat's visit the American public has not backed Israel as clearly as before. In this respect As-Sadat's visit was a complete success for you.

Husayn: I see it the same way, and this is why I termed As-Sadat's initiative courageous. I also believe that it undoubtedly entailed better Western understanding of our problems.

SPIEGEL: Even in Israel there now exists a peace movement. Prior to the negotiations the Israelis were not prepared to give up their Sinai settlements. Now they are doing it. Can you achieve something similar in negotiations on West Jordan and the Gaza Strip?

Husayn: Negotiations have reached a dead center, just because of the preamble, which mentions, at best, just preparedness to conclude a general peace treaty beyond a separate treaty. This is supposed to keep the entire process going, but it seems that this is obviously not acceptable for Israel.

SPIEGEL: U.S. President Carter publicly at least has taken up a completely obvious stance. He also represents the Arab point of view today. Do you believe that the Americans are powerful enough to force their Israeli allies to conclude a far-reaching peace treaty with their Arab neighbors?

Husayn: I really do not know. I already said that their intentions are good. They are seriously concerned. But despite the fact that we are representing a just cause and that we are looking for peace, both parties are not being treated equally. That creates the feeling of national humiliation among the Arabs. And that is very, very dangerous. If we don't grab that chance, if the Israelis do not give up their stance of being the only just ones--a stance from which they have been suffering for years--then I believe the beneficial stance of the Arab world will change with regard to the West. We already have tried much and we will try everything. But if there is no hope, serious consequences could develop.

SPIEGEL: Israel wants security guarantees. Would you temporarily accept the presence of military installations or troops at the Jordan River.

Husayn: The Arabs must decide on that, but I could well imagine that an interim solution could be negotiated if the final results were absolutely clear and unequivocal. The final result must only be the regaining of these territories. Security is important for both sides, and if we approach that security problem on the basis of mutuality, possibilities could exist for a solution.

SPIEGEL: Could you imagine West Jordan and the Gaza Strip forming an independent state?

[Text] Husayn: I can imagine that. I believe though that some strong ties should exist with Jordan and other states. I have the greatest confidence in the Palestinian people, in the vast majority of that people.

SPIEGEL: Personally, you probably would prefer a confederation between Jordan and Palestine. Your plans at least were aimed in that direction in the past.

Husayn: Yes, these were the plans. The decision is now up to the Palestinians.

SPIEGEL: What do the Palestinians in West Jordan think of that? You often talk to them.

Husayn: At the beginning of As-Sadat's initiative they hoped it would help to save them. Later they became most skeptical in view of the Israeli approach to the settlements and to Jerusalem. They consider the PLO their representatives, and they avoided it to point out their stance because nothing is definite.

SPIEGEL: Majesty, you speak very rarely of the PLO. Do you believe the PLO is the only representative of the Palestinian people, or could you imagine other forms of representation?

Husayn: Since the 1974 Rabat conference the PLO has been the official representative of Palestine. On the other hand, however, I just hope that the PLO in future really will be representing all trends and groups of the Palestinian people.

SPIEGEL: The Palestinians hold a numerical majority in your kingdom. Are you and the Bedouins afraid of the Palestinians? Their interests are completely different from yours.

Husayn: That is not at all very clear. Even in the worst period of 1967 through 1970 that led to the 1970 clashes, it never was a matter of Palestinians and Jordanians. Involved were chaos and anarchy.

SPIEGEL: You met PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat recently for the first time since 1970 when the Jordanian Army waged a bloody fight against the Palestinians. Was that meeting a sign of reconciliation between the Palestinian leaders and you?

Husayn: We are trying to sit down with the PLO and have a dialog. If the PLO interests are the rights of the Palestinains, these also will be our interests. We must do everything to avoid the mistakes made in the past, regardless of their origin, and we make sure that none of the factors that touched off the previous clash return. There is hope and fear on both sides.

SPIEGEL: How do you assess the Baghdad summit conference where the Arab leaders prepared measures to be taken if Israel and Egypt conclude a separate peace treaty?

Husayn: The danger existed after Camp David that we might be split into two separate camps. That fortunately has been avoided.

SPIEGEL: The Arabs already are divided--on the one side there is Egypt, on the other the participants of the Baghdad conference. How will matters continue after the summit?

Husayn: The Arabs are prepared to do everything they can under just conditions for lasting and just peace. They are not prepared to give up Palestinian rights or territories or to be involved in a vague process that will produce nothing.

SPIEGEL: Did you take any concrete measures against Egypt?

Husayn: Some secret results have been achieved at that conference. The conference really tried to keep a door open for Egypt. That will be possible only if Egypt does not sign a separate peace treaty, and if it, together with the rest of the Arab world, continues striving for a far-reaching peace treaty.

SPIEGEL: Do you believe that you could reconquer your lost territories in a new war against Israel?

Husayn: I do not see that possibility in the near future. On the contrary, the imbalance will become even greater once Egypt signs a separate peace treaty with Israel. Such a separate peace treaty would be a great threat to the remaining Arab world.

SPIEGEL: Do you believe that oil prices could be used as an effective weapon against Israel and the West?

Husayn: I believe that the Arab world would use that weapon most unwillingly, and I hope that the world becomes aware of that and appreciates it. I hope we will use other means for strengthening our position.

SPIEGEL: Majesty, we thank you for this talk.

BEGIN'S REJECTION OF EGYPTIAN PROPOSALS CRITICIZED

JN2010334Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] Menahem Begin yesterday announced his rejection of the Egyptian proposals on the basis that they deviate from the framework of the Camp David agreements. At the same time, he put forth the conditions that the Israeli army should remain in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip and that the process of establishing settlements should continue. Furthermore, he ruled out any time linkage between the Camp David agreements.

Israel is adopting this intransinget stand regarding these proposals despite the fact that these Egyptian proposals aim at finding a linkage between the Sinai agreement and the process of expansion in applying the self-rule agreement, [as heard], without going into a discussion of the essential matters which have been ignored in the two Camp David agreements.

The question which poses itself now is: What will Israel's stand be when a dialog is held about Jerusalem, or the rights of Palestinians to sovereignty, or the suspension of the establishment of Zionist settlements in the occupied Arab territories, or the ending of occupation by Israel's total withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories? In the Israeli Government's opinion, anything outside the framework of the Camp David documents is rejected. This means that the basic principles about which letters have been exchanged among the three Camp David partners are also rejected as far as Israel is concerned.

What sort of peace is this which guarantees the continuation of the Israeli army's presence in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, retains Jerusalem as the united capital of Israel, guarantees the continuation of the establishment of Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territories, and provides security to one side only, that of Israel, at the expense of the other parties to the conflict in the Middle East?

Thus, what is going on inside and outside the rooms of Blair House constitutes clear proof and evidence of the soundness of the stand adopted by the Arab leaders at the ninth summit in Baghdad in rejecting the two Camp David agreements and all the results which might ensue from these agreements.

The Arabs want a peace based on justice and security for all and not one based on injustice and expansion in the name of peace.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ANNOUNCES NEW APPOINTMENTS

NC201245Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Nov 78 NC

[Text] A new group of diplomatic appointments was announced today:

The consul general in Montreal, Butrus Ziyadah, has been transferred to the Central Administration.

The adviser to the embassy in Ankara, Faysal Sultan, has been appointed ambassador to Kuwait in place of Ambassador Samih al-Baba, who has been transferred to the Central Administration.

The adviser in the embassy in Belgrade, 'Isam Bayhum, has been appointed ambassador to Turkey.

The ambassador in Tripoli, Muhammad al-Malik, has been appointed ambassador to Yugoslavia in place of 'Isam Bayhum.

The adviser to the diplomatic corps in the Central Administration, Fawzi Shalukh has been appointed ambassador to Nigeria in place of Ambassador Husayn al-'Abdallah, who has been transferred to the Cairo embassy.

A Lebanese Embassy has been established in Bucharest.

PRIME MINISTER ISSUES CIRCULAR ON PRIVATE RADIO STATIONS

NC201810Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Nov 78 NC

[Text] Today the prime minister issued a circular prohibiting official dealings with the private radio stations, in implementation of the cabinet resolution which aims to correct the situation related to the information media.

The circular states: In accordance with legislative decree No 112 dated 12 June 1959 concerning the civil servants regulations; and on the basis of the cabinet decision dated 25 October 1978, related to the executive plan of the Arab foreign ministers' resolution comprising the Arab countries participating in and contributing to the Arab Deterrent Forces--and inasmuch as the third clause of this resolution, related to correction of the situation in the information media, decrees the cessation of broadcasts by the private radio station; the heads of the general administrations and institutions, municipalities and other civil servants, contractors and hired workers are requested to refrain from and to stop dealing with the private radio stations in any manner. Otherwise they will face legal action.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS SYRIAN FIRING

NC201322Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 20 Nov 78 NC

[Text] At noon today, the Syrian forces suddenly opened fire on the areas of Badaru and Al-Kifuri in the southern suburb. They first used medium machineguns but later used mortars for about 30 minutes. Tank and antitank fire was also opened on the axes of Ash-Shiyah and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah.

The Syrian forces this morning intensified sniper fire on the contact points in the capital and fired DSHK shells in the direction of As-Sayfi, Al-Burj, Ad-Dabbas and Al-Yasu'iyah areas, thus rendering the roads exposed to the Syrian positions hazardous and dangerous. Taniyus al-Mu'allim, a university student, was hit outside Saint Joseph University by sniper bullets fired from the Ashmun building. He was taken to Ar-Rum hospital, where he succumbed to his wounds.

At about 1300 today, heavy explosions occurred in the heart of the capital. Armed positions there have continued opening sniper fire in every direction.

In the western area of Beirut, Lebanese policeman Hani Hani killed himself with his government-issued revolver to protest the deterioration in the security situation in Lebanon.

Reports from Al-Biqa' say that forces of the Syrian special units have attacked a gendarmerie post in Dayr al-Ahmar and seized a jeep belonging to the post.

In the northern area, investigations today confirmed that the two bodies which were found near Jisr al-Madfun last week were those of Bisharah Nu'man Tawq and Qazhayyar Malhi of the town of Bsharri. Some quarters had tried to deny the report after it was announced last week.

Leaflets have been distributed in the western area of Beirut in the name of the Amal Organization, warning that if it does not learn about the fate of Imam as-Sadr within a week, it will not keep quiet if his fate remains unknown.

ADF COMMAND ISSUES REPORT ON SECURITY SITUATION

NC2020052 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Nov 78 NC

[20 November statement by responsible source of Arab Deterrent Forces Command--read by announcer]

[Text] At noon on Sunday, 19 November 1978, the At-Tarabulsi barracks were hit by 13 RPG rounds and more than 10 mortar shells which were fired from the adjoining buildings. A soldier was wounded in the shoulder. As a result, the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] in the area were forced to respond in order to silence the sources fire.

On 20 November 1978, without any justification, armed men in the same area suddenly fired machineguns and RPG's at the ADF military centers in the At-Tayyunah traffic circle. Another soldier was wounded, and the ADF responded and silenced the sources of fire.

Meanwhile, sniping in the areas of the Empire (?movie theater) and Ad-Dabbas and (Monaud) street has not stopped since 0600. This forced the ADF to respond from time to time against the sources of fire.

The ADF Command, which is diligently striving to control the security situation in all the areas by using all its resources and methods, warns those who insist on violating the cease-fire to which the ADF have strictly pledged themselves since 7 October 1978, that if these sniping incidents against the ADF continue, the ADF will respond more fiercely against the sources of fire.

Lebanese Forces Reject Report

NC202050Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 2015 GMT 20 Nov 78 NC

[20 November statement by the official spokesman of Lebanese Forces Command--read by announcer]

[Text] In response to and as an explanation of the contents of the statement issued this evening by the Syrian Deterrent Forces about alleged moves against the Syrian military positions, we say that the Lebanese Forces Command completely rejects the deterrent forces' statement. We draw attention to the last phrase in the statement, which is an open and clear indication of the intention of the Syria forces to escalate the security situation. It must be born in mind that the units of the Lebanese forces have been fully abiding by the cease-fire on all fronts.

The Lebanese Forces Command wonders: Does the consolidation of security and stability in the country require felling university students by sniper fire at the gates of the colleges, and is the killing of young man Qabis al-Mu'allim by Syrian sniper fire at the entrance of the faculty of law at the Jesuit University equivalent to an alleged shoulder wound to a Syrian soldier mentioned by the deterrent forces?

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS SPORADIC FIRING 21 NOVEMBER

NC210743Y Voice of Lebanon [Clanestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 21 Nov 78 NC

[Text] The security situation in the various Lebanese areas has been as follows: In northern Al-Matn, the situation is good. However, in the As-Safyi area, sporadic firing occurred before midnight last night. Furthermore, RPG rockets were fired. Calm reigned in the morning, however.

In the southern Al-Matn area, firing is still intense at times and sporadic at other times. The Syrian forces are using antitank weapons, DSHK's, RPG's and tanks. However, the situation is now good, except for the sniping operations which are being carried out on all the combat lines.

Throughout the night last night, explosions were being heard everywhere. Furthermore, five flares were fired over the area. There was sporadic firing in the Furn ash-Shubbak area.

IMAM MUSA AS-SADR REPORTEDLY ARRIVES IN PARIS

NC181139Y Doha QNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 18 Nov 78 NC

[Text] Riyadh, 18 November--The Saudi newspaper AL-JAZIRAH reports today that Imam Musa as-Sadr, chairman of the Shi'ite Islamic Council in Lebanon, arrived in Paris yesterday following his release by the Libyan authorities. The newspaper adds that Imam as-Sadr will leave for Damascus today.

In a dispatch from London, the newspaper says that Imam as-Sadr was released following pressure from Algerian President Houari Boumedience and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

BAGHDAD CLAIMS AL-ASAD TO VISIT POLAND THIS MONTH

JN1012519Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad is to pay an official visit to Poland in the second half of this month. Informed sources said in Damascus today that President al-Asad's visit to Poland is part of a tour in some foreign states to brief their officials on the current developments in the Arab region.

KUWAITI DAILY: AL-ASAD TO VISIT MOSCOW TO DISCUSS WAR THREAT

JN2109059Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0845 GMT 21 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 21 November--Quoting reliable Syrian sources, the Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM reports that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will visit Moscow soon, prompted by reports on Israeli preparations to attack Syria immediately after the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. The attack will be under the pretext of a precautionary war to confront Syrian-Iraqi threats.

The paper quotes the same sources as saying that the Syrian president will hold extremely important political and military talks.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY DISCUSSES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

JN2105519Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 21 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--The People's Assembly will reconvene at 1800 today under speaker Mahmud Hadid.

The assembly convened yesterday with Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi and a number of ministers attending. The prime minister briefed the assembly on the main features of the government's plans for development and production. The prime minister asserted that these plans have taken into account the components of development and production in the country. He added that necessary allotments have been made to implement the development projects.

The prime minister then answered questions raised by the assembly members on topics discussed. The assembly then resumed the discussion of the report that were compiled by its committees.

ARAB POPULAR CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN PRAISES SYRIAN STAND

JN2017039Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Mr 'Abd al-Majid Farid, chairman of the Arab Popular Conference, has praised President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian party and government officials. In a statement to SANA, Farid said: We are all aware of the Syrian people's struggle and the struggle of their revolutionary leadership in the past and the future, especially since it is the foremost state in the confrontation against the racist Zionist entity.

Mr Farid praised the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement and said: The meeting has been a positive step on the road to Arab solidarity. Mr Farid said that it is now clear to the whole Arab nation that the imperialist threat which confronts us after Camp David and the Blair House talks is very great.

The chairman of the popular conference said that what is assuring to us is that the Arab forces, especially the pan-Arab and progressive forces, have made clear the necessary measures to face the humiliating and evil results of the Camp David agreements.

Mr Farid arrived in Damascus yesterday to take part in the Arab Popular Conference, which will be held on 25 November.

INFORMATION MINISTER'S STATEMENT TO IRAQI DAILY

JN191542Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 19 November--Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad has stressed that the Joint National Action Charter between the two fraternal countries of Syria and Iraq is an expression of the impact of the free Arab will in countering the challenges facing our nation. It is also an expression of the pan-Arab trend of our masses as well as of their aspirations for unity. It is, moreover, a rewriting of modern Arab history. Therefore, the charter marks the beginning of the correct course which the nation should follow with great determination and resolve.

The information minister said this in an exclusive statement to the press mission of the Iraqi paper ATH-THAWRAH currently visiting the country. The statement was published today in both the Syrian paper ATH-THAWRAH and in the Iraqi paper.

The minister added: Because the charter is an expression of the free Arab will, the hostile reactions to it by the Zionist entity, As-Sadat's regime and the allies of Zionism in the world have been convulsive and nervous.

The minister continued: Our enemies wanted a general collapse in the Arab world, but the charter prevents this. It serves to promote the nation's vengence on its enemies who are trying to liquidate our cause.

Iskandar explained that the unity action, which was set up by the Joint National Action Charter, expresses the nation's will to live--a will based on a belief in the need to stop the collapse in the Arab homeland, to liberate the occupied Arab territories, and to live and to allow the coming generations to live in dignity and pride.

The information minister added: No matter how big and harsh the hostile reactions are, they will not diminish the impetus of our march toward achieving our objectives. Moreover, they will not prevent us from developing and enriching all that is achieved. I firmly say that these reactions will increase our confidence in the soundness of our decisions and stands. They will also make us more determined to proceed on the path of unity and thus remain loyal to ourselves, our principles and the masses which have placed their confidence in us.

The information minister further added: The charter has undoubtedly disturbed the hostile forces, foiled their plans and turned them against themselves. The scope of action we have started expresses the aspirations of the masses as embodied in the achievement of comprehensive and total unity between the two fraternal countries. Therefore, everything that is implemented and every decision that is taken by the Higher Political Committee or any central committees and subcommittees stemming from it must take into consideration paving the way for further steps which will move us more quickly toward unity.

Iskandar stressed that we have one cause and one stand, something which calls for conscientious and enlightened joint action and moves to explain our cause and to gain more friends as well as to increase our defense capability, including our ability to achieve final victory.

Replying to a question on the reactions to the charter in the Arab homeland, the minister said: For us, only the degree of nationalism and patriotism represents the attitude toward the national charter and the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES LEBANESE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES OFFICIAL

JN201300Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1230 today Dr Amin al-Hafiz, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies. During the meeting, they reviewed the situation in Lebanon and relations between the two fraternal countries.

KIM IL-SONG CABLES GOOD WISHES TO AL-ASAD

JN201918Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1750 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 20 November--President Hafiz al-Asad has received the following cable from DPRK President Kim Il-song:

On the occasion of the anniversary of the corrective movement in Syria, I would like to send your excellency in the name of the DPRK Government and people and on my own behalf my heartfelt congraulations for you, for the Syrian Government and the friendly Syrian people.

After the corrective movement and under your just and wise leadership your country has achieved numerous successes and your people have fought for a better life. The Syrian people are still valiantly fighting imperialism and Zionism in order to achieve continued progress for Syria and to insure the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The Korean people wish the Syrian people the greatest of victories in this just struggle.

On this occasion I express to you my confidence that friendship and solidarity between our two peoples and our two countries in their joint struggle against imperialism will daily develop and be strengthened.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR

JN181517Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1240 GMT 18 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 18 November--Jamil Shayya, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, this afternoon received the ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Romania in Damascus. During the meeting, they discussed economic relations between the two friendly countries and the means to develop them in the future.

ARAB-EUROPEAN DIALOG DISCUSSED WITH FRG OFFICIALS

JN181515Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1250 GMT 18 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 18 November--Nasir Qaddur, assistant foreign minister, received at noon today the FRG delegation to the Arab-European dialog. The delegation includes Dr (Ele), chairman of the FRG delegation; Dr (Jarkner), deputy chairman of the FRG delegation; and the delegate of the European committee to the Arab-European dialog.

During the meeting, the arrangements related to convening the general committee on Arab-European dialog in the first half of next month in Damascus were discussed.

Nasir Qaddur stressed to the delegation the significance of the Arab-European dialog and the need to promote it.

The meeting was attended on the Syrian Arab side by Dr Rafiq Juwayhati, director of the West European Desk at the Foreign Ministry, and Miss Mawiyah ash-Shaykh Fudla, minister plenipotentiary at the West European Department.

IRAQI-SYRIAN SUBCOMMITTEE RESUMES MEETINGS

JN202149Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Text] The information subcommittee emanating from the Syrian-Iraqi Joint Political, Information and Cultural Committee resumed its meeting at 1900 today under Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, minister of information, and Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, Iraqi information minister. The committee concluded the review of the working paper on the coordination of information efforts and activities in the two fraternal countries with the aim of integrating information and developing it to serve the aims of our people in the two countries and in the Arab homeland.

The subcommittee will submit the results of its work and recommendations to the political, information and cultural committee which is scheduled to meet in early December.

DAMASCUS DAILY SAYS SYRIA NOT WARMONGER

JN211014Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0830 GMT 21 Nov 78 JN

[Excerpt] Damascus, 21 November--The newspaper TISHRIN today comments on As-Sadat's attempts to find a reasonable or acceptable justification for his policy, which is opposed by the Egyptians and other Arabs. The paper says: In their pro-As-Sadat propaganda, U.S., Zionist and Western news media do not hesitate to say that the Egyptians, the Arabs and world public opinion face two alternatives: capitulatory peace under U.S. terms contrary to the UN Charter and resolutions, or war that would result in destruction and defeat for the Arabs. But is it true that war is the only alternative to surrender?

The paper asserts: Syria, which refuses to surrender to U.S. and Israeli terms and is against any attempt to force Arab surrender that would permit usurpation of Arab territories and liquidate the Palestinian question, does not at all believe that war is the only alternative to surrender.

TISHRIN adds: As President al-Asad said, Syria is not a warmonger. Syria wants just and lasting peace based on the principles of the UN Charter, which acknowledge the impermissibility of the acquisition of other people's lands by force, the right of every people to self-determination and the right of all nations to use every possible means to liberate their land from foreign invaders.

ALGERIA

ALGIERS NOTES BOUMEDIENE'S CONTINUING POOR HEALTH

LD202005Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Nov 78 LD

[Text] We are opening this bulletin with a report from APS which says that the state of health of the president remains the central preoccupation of all national bodies, and of the Algerian people, who have never missed an opportunity to express their deep affection toward the patriotic and revolutionary ideal he embodies.

On his return from Moscow, where his visit was one of work and rest, his state of health was causing growing concern. Along with the Algerian doctors, highly competent medical teams of different nationalities are giving aid, and their diligence is especially appreciated.

Since the return of President Boumediene, the Council of the Revolution has been meeting regularly to insure the smooth running of the state. [Word indistinct] observers are unanimous that President Boumediene's illness has not led to any slowing down of national [word indistinct].

By functioning normally the state and the national institutions [word indistinct] have remained firm and stable. The Algerian people, who have always shown good sense and discipline, especially in difficult moments, are showing exemplary maturity and political responsibility in all circumstances.

It is by closing the ranks of the nation and the revolution on the basis of the national charter that the Algerian people will express with determination their attachment to the head of state, and our policy of national independence and social progress. Now when all eyes are turned toward Algeria, the vigilance of our people is more necessary than ever to thwart all the maneuvers of imperialism and reaction.

'Very Seriously Ill'

TA211240Y Paris AFP in English 1226 GMT 21 Nov 78 TA

[Text] Algiers, Nov 21 (AFP)--Algerian President Houari Boumediene was "very seriously ill" today after a severe relapse in his mystery illness, according to reliable sources here.

Doctors of five nationalities had worked in relays by the president's bedside for the past 48 hours, the sources said.

BOUTEFLIKA RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SYRIAN COUNTERPART

LD202022Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Nov 78 LD

[Summary] Brigadier Muhammad al-Khuli arrived in Algiers this afternoon from Damascus carrying a special message from 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to Abdelaziz Bouteflika, member of the Council of the Revolution and Algerian foreign minister.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM IDI AMIN

LD201638Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Nov 78 LD

[Text] Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi today received Lt Col Bashir Juma, under secretary of the Ugandan Foreign Ministry, [name and title as heard] who is currently on a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

During the meeting, Lt Col Bashir Juma handed the leader of the revolution a message from Field Marshal Idi Amin Dada, president of Uganda.

LIBYA-HUNGARY JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETS IN TRIPOLI

LD210022Y Tripoli JANA in English 1632 GMT 20 Nov 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 20 November, JANA--The Libyan Arab-Hungarian joint committee on economic and social cooperation continued it's meeting this morning at the Foreign Secretariat in Tripoli, to discuss methods of promoting cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and Hungary, in all fields.

According to sources at the cooperation department at the Foreign Secretariat, the committee will set a comprehensive program to implement the agreements reached during the recent visit of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, to Hungary.

The Libyan Arab delegation to these meetings includes representatives from the foreign, transport, trade, electricity, dams and water resources, education, agriculture and health secretariats.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN RECEIVES RIBICOFF-LED SENATE DELEGATION

LD201440Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Nov 78 LD

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II this afternoon at the Rabat Royal Palace received a delegation of U.S. senators led by Senator Ribicoff. The delegation arrived in Morocco this morning for an official visit to our country, the first leg of a tour to several states.

At Rabat airport, Senator Ribicoff said that the delegation was happy to make this visit which will allow them to meet King Hassan II, and familiarize themselves with the king's views on various international issues. He said he hoped to see his contacts with Moroccan officials and legislators lead to a strengthening of Moroccan-American relations.

The U.S. delegation was welcomed by Abdelaziz Aloui Hafidhi, secretary of the National Assembly; (Bechir Feguigui) chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Committee at the National Assembly; and Othman Ben Soudah, member of the aforementioned committee; and Amor Belkoura, director of the European and American Section at the Foreign Ministry; and by the U.S. charge d'affaires in Rabat.

MOROCCO, USSR SIGN FRUIT AGREEMENT IN RABAT

LD202314Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Nov 78 LD

[Text] Finance Minister Abdellatif Chissassi this afternoon received in audience at his office the chairman of the Soviet company Soyuzplodoimport, Mr Zhizhin, who is currently on a mission in Morocco within the framework of relations between the Soviet company and the Moroccan Exports and Marketing Bureau. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the constant development of Soviet-Moroccan trade relations and cooperation between the two countries. Attending the meeting was Abdullah Lahlu, director general of the Exports and Marketing Bureau.

It is worth recalling that this morning at the headquarters of the Exports and Marketing Bureau, Mr Zhizhin signed on behalf of the Soviet side an agreement regarding the sale of early fruits and citrus fruit to the Soviet Union at the (?end) of the 1978-1979 season. This agreement will make Morocco the major supplier to the Soviet market in the field of [word indistinct] and fruit.

Soyuzplodoimport is one of the most important Soviet establishments for foreign trade. In 1977 the Soviet Union took eighth place among Morocco's customers and 10th place among Morocco's suppliers; the volume of exchange between the two countries was to the value of 600 million dirhams.

CASABLANCA PAPER VIEWS 'EXCELLENT' RELATIONS WITH U.S.

LD171237Y Casablanca LE MATIN in French 12 Nov 78 pp 1, 3 LD

[Ahmed Alaoui editorial: "Two Centuries of Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Excerpt] In recent years Moroccan-U.S. cooperation has taken place in the economic, financial and cultural spheres. Daily flights between Morocco and the United States have been initiated and insured by Royal Air Maroc and TWA. Agreements providing for satellite communications have been concluded, and U.S. tourists in Morocco represent the second largest group in the country. Finally, the United States maintained thoroughly a very correct attitude toward our cause at the time we were taking action to recover the Sahara. We would like to recall that on the eve of the Green March, U.S. Assistant Secretary State Atherton visited Marrakesh, where he had talks with His Majesty King Hassan II. Let us also emphasize that Morocco was one of the first countries visited by Mr Kissinger when he was trying to achieve peace in the Near East and that he came to Rabat twice.

The fact that our relations have been excellent has never prevented our government from adopting a critical attitude toward U.S. policy whenever it hurt the feelings of the Arab nation. However, His Majesty King Hassan II has always believed that any solution to the Near East problem is dependent on Washington and that the only way to achieve one is to try to modify the U.S. attitude. A positive and friendly attitude is certainly more effective and realistic in this respect than permanent hostility, which has always played into Israel's hands.

If U.S. policy with respect to the Near East problem has changed considerably, this is partly due to His Majesty King Hassan II.

It must also be stated that the attitude adopted by His Majesty King Hassan II toward problems which have arisen in Africa has been unanimously appreciated in America, especially the aid given to Shaba to help it defend its integrity against forces of aggression and subversion.

It must also be emphasized that Morocco is a genuinely nonalined country which, unlike many others, does not believe in unilateral nonalinement.

Our country--and this is one of the constant factors of King Hassan's policy--maintains friendly relations and unequivocal cooperation with both east and west and both north and south. However, as we have already said, this does not prevent us from taking sides whenever the defense of what is right and just calls for this, nor do we make our attitude dependent on any ideological commitments.

We are able to recognize the merits and faults of both sides since it is obvious that so-called conservative regimes are sometimes dictatorial and so-called progressive regimes are sometimes imperialist.

Having said this, what has been remarkable in the history of U.S.-Moroccan relations is that they have always remained marked with friendship and cordiality which are continually being strengthened.

SUDAN

OFFICIAL TALKS WITH PRC'S ULANFU BEGIN IN KHARTOUM

JN201804Y Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 20 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, Nov. 20 (SUNA)--Official talks between Sudan and the visiting Chinese delegation started here this morning. The talks covered international issues, the Middle East question, the situation in Africa and bilateral relations. First vice president, Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim headed the Sudanese side while Ulanfu headed the Chinese one. In a press statement following the meeting, Ulanfu said the viewpoints were identical and that solidarity between the two countries will be strengthened.

Ulanfu will meet the vice president and foreign minister, Ar-Rashid at-Tahir tonight.

Further Reportage

LD202018Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 78 LD/EA

[Text] During their official talks held in the conference room of Friendship Hall today, the Sudanese and Chinese delegations discussed the international situation, changing international conditions and the Middle East problem. They also discussed the situation in Asia and Africa, as well as bilateral relations and ways to strengthen and further develop them.

'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president of the republic, secretary general of the Sudanese Socialist Union, and leader of the Sudanese side in the talks, explained the achievements of the May revolution in the economic, political and cultural fields and Sudan's efforts to achieve and consolidate full national unity and establish constitutional organs.

Comrade Ulanfu, vice chairman of the standing committee of deputies of the Chinese National Assembly and leader of the Chinese side in the talks, said that the views expressed in the talks concurred and were useful, and that the two sides speak a common language. Solidarity between the two countries will grow in strength and scope, he said.

SOCIALIST UNION RESUMES MEETINGS UNDER NUMAYRI

JN191823Y Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 19 Nov 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 19 November--The Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU) Politburo resumed today its meeting under the chairmanship of President Numayri.

The Politburo reviewed the national action inside Sudan, particularly the national reconciliation. The discussion was centered on consolidating reconciliation. President Numayri will issue a detailed directive to achieve more participation in the national action for the returnees. The Politburo will resume its meetings tomorrow (Monday).

TUNISIA

PRIME MINISTER ACCEPTS CARTER'S INVITATION TO VISIT U.S.

LD210952Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 21 Nov 78 LD

[Text] The prime minister's office has issued the following statement:

Prime Minister Hedi Nouira has accepted an invitation extended to him by President Carter to pay an official visit to the United States. The prime minister is due in Washington at the end of this month. During this visit he is to have talks with the U.S. President and various senior officials in the United States. The two governments are currently fixing the details of this visit.

WESTERN SAHARA

SAHARAN DEFENSE MINISTRY ISSUES MILITARY STATEMENT

LD210004Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Nov 78 LD

[Summary] The Saharan Ministry of Defense issued a military statement this evening stating that on the night of 18 November forces of the Saharan people's army attacked the invading forces in the heart of the town of Elaaiun using various weapons, including heavy weapons, killing 15 soldiers and wounding a similar number.

The statement added that on the morning of 18 November, the Saharan revolutionaries attacked a royal garrison at [place name indistinct] killing 10 soldiers and destroying a number of the garrison's posts. On the same day four military vehicles belonging to the royal forces were destroyed by mines planted by the Saharan revolutionaries south of El Aaiun. Nine soldiers who were on board these vehicles were killed and more than 12 others were wounded.

BEGIN OUTLINES EGYPTIAN DEMANDS AT HERUT MEETING

TA2010500 Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 20 Nov 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Amnon Barzilay]

[Excerpt] In the speech Mr Begin delivered at the beginning of the Herut Center meeting, he said:

"I can assume that the government will reject the new proposals of Egypt."

Mr Begin made it clear that Israel will not agree to any timetable regarding the administrative autonomy in Judaea and Samaria, nor to the entry of a police force to the Gaza Strip or an Egyptian liaison office in Gaza. Mr Begin further said that he will continue to recommend that the Israeli Cabinet express readiness to sign the peace treaty, taking into consideration several assumptions he pointed out during his speech. He will submit his recommendation on Wednesday [as received], in the cabinet's concluding meeting.

In his speech the prime minister disclosed clauses from the peace treaty and quoted the paragraphs relating to the new Egyptian demands appearing in the sixth article of the treaty and concentrating on the following clauses:

A. One demand is connected with the second clause in the sixth article stating: "The parties undertake to sincerely fulfil their obligations according to this treaty, regardless of an action or avoidance of action of any other party and independent of the document which is not a part of this treaty." The Egyptians, Mr Begin said, want to erase the last part of the clause and to include only the words: "The parties undertake to sincerely fulfill their obligations according to this treaty."

B. The second demand refers to the fourth clause of the sixth article where the Egyptians demand the addition of the words: "and also to avoid an action which contradicts the treaty," after the words: "The parties undertake not to enter any commitment which contradicts this treaty." In contrast, the prime minister said, the Egyptians suggest the complete erasure of the fifth clause of the sixth article stating that "according to Clause 103 of the UN Charter, in the event of a contradiction between the commitments of the parties according to this treaty and any other commitment, the commitments according to this clause are valid and will be the ones to be implemented." Mr Begin said that he can assume the government will reject these Egyptian proposals and Israel will insist on leaving the clauses in the sixth article unchanged.

The prime minister said that Israel had submitted two correction proposals: The first already appears in the preamble to the Camp David agreements and is also supposed to appear in the preamble to the peace agreement which states that the Camp David agreement is intended to serve as a basis for peace not only between Israel and Egypt, but also between Israel and each of its neighbors that is willing to conduct peace negotiations with Israel. "We had reservations on this basis and asked to have it erased," Begin said.

Another proposal for an amendment refers to a paragraph in the peace treaty which discusses the international border between Israel and Egypt. In the original proposal the Egyptians did not mention the advance determination of the status of the Gaza Strip, and according to Israel's proposal the word "the problem" of the status of "the Gaza Strip" was added.

Mr Begin further said that Israel will control the entire timetable. "We are prepared to keep the Camp David agreement as we signed it, since we made commitments in it. This is the great rule we will always adopt: to keep the agreements as they were when we signed them."

Begin added that the Israeli Government has presented three conditions it will not give up with regard to operating the autonomy in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. "We cannot impose autonomy on anyone. Autonomy can be implemented only through agreement, we cannot impose it on anyone. First, there should be a full agreement according to the conditions. After the peace treaty between us and Egypt is signed, we will be prepared to conduct negotiations on the conditions under which the administrative autonomy will be implemented and operated. The three conditions to be raised in the negotiations are: A. The IDF will be in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. B. Security. C. Jewish settlement.

BEGIN REACTS TO AS-SADAT INTERVIEW ON FRENCH TV

TA201515Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 20 Nov 78 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin reacted this afternoon to President as-Sadat's statement in an interview on French television, which was carried on radio. Mr Begin expressed joy that President as-Sadat believes, like him, that the peace treaty can be signed soon.

As for the location of the signing, Mr Begin repeated his proposal that the treaty be signed in Jerusalem and in Cairo. He said he was ready to go to Cairo and sign the Hebrew version of the treaty, whereas the president would come to Jerusalem to sign the Arabic version.

Mr Begin also suggested that President Carter be invited as a witness and that he sign the treaty in both locations.

WEIZMAN REPORTS TO KNESSET FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

TA201246Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Nov 78 TA

[Text] The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee today heard a report by Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. He placed the maps of Sinai before the committee members and explained the details of the arrangement.

Our correspondent says that Mr Weizman repeated his opinion that the Egyptians want peace. Even though there are problems, some of which are substantial and some of which are marginal, one can say in general that the Egyptians want an arrangement.

Answering the chairman's question on why the Egyptians were so stubborn about Judaea and Samaria, Minister Weizman replied that the Egyptians owed it to the Arab world.

The debate did not end after Minister Weizman hurried to a meeting with the prime minister. The committee will convene again this week with his participation to conclude the discussion on this matter.

EHRLICH BRIEFS KNESSET FINANCE COMMITTEE ON U.S. AID

TA201647Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 20 Nov 78 TA

[Text] The finance minister said that Israel is asking the United States $3.3 billion in aid. Two thirds of this sum is to be a grant and the rest a loan for 30 years at 2 percent interest.

Minister Ehrlich told the Knesset Finance Committee he was convinced that the United States would approve this request.

CABINET VOTES TO SIGN TREATY WITHOUT EGYPTIAN DEMANDS

TA211307Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 21 Nov 78 TA

[Text] The cabinet is prepared to sign the peace treaty, the version submitted to it by the negotiations delegation to Washington, if Egypt is also prepared for this. At the end of a 5-hour meeting, the cabinet has decided that the latest Egyptian proposals deviate from the Camp David agreements, and Israel does not accept them. The cabinet has decided that after the peace treaty is signed and ratified, it will be ready to open negotiations to reach an agreement on the operation of the autonomy, according to what is stated in the Camp David agreements.

The cabinet's decision was announced by the prime minister, Mr Menahem Begin. The decision was supported by 15 ministers, 2 ministers--Hammer and Landau--objected to it.

Our correspondent Zevi Lidar said the prime minister refused to answer correspondents' questions, but promised that tomorrow, after he appears before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, he will be ready to answer questions.

MA'ARIV SCORES ISRAELI NEGOTIATING ERRORS IN PEACE TALKS

TA191422Y Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 19 Nov 78 p 5 TA

[Moshe Zaq commentary: "Exercise in Five Mistakes"]

[Text] In his report on his talk with President Carter, 'Ezer Weizman said he had advised the U.S. President to stop sending angry letters to Menahem Begin on the matter of the settlements and their fleshing-out.

This was indeed good advice which must have pleased the prime minister, just as the prime minister managed to credit the defense minister for the latter's talk with President Carter on U.S. aid for the construction of the airfields in the Negev, before the finance minister returned from Washington and reported the melting of the freeze on this issue, thanks to his talks with administration personnel.

But the prime minister has certainly read other reports about the talks in Washington, in which the defense minister did not always keep a suitable tone and line. For example, 'Ezer Weizman sometimes used to turn to the members of the Egyptian delegation and tell them, please tell President as-Sadat that I am asking him, personally, to concede on such and such a point.

This personal appeal approach has aroused critical reactions in Jerusalem, since the ministers claimed that the negotiations with Egypt are not an issue for personal chemistry, or personal charm, but for deliberations between two countries whose interests demand that they sign a peace treaty. It is only by basing matters on interests that there is any guarantee that the treaty to be signed will also be honored.

This personal appeal approach, which has also been used by other members of the delegation in the negotiations, has more than once led to complaints by the U.S. mediators. The defense minister or the foreign minister would say, during the negotiations, that they would recommend that the cabinet in Jerusalem accept this or that Egyptian proposal, and when the cabinet did not approve it, the Egyptians saw this as a change in the Israeli position. The Americans and the Egyptians could not believe that the defense minister and foreign minister made statements without first having consulted with the prime minister or without having been given prior authorization by Jerusalem, since this was how the Egyptians behaved even when they gave their personal views--they already had As-Sadat's prior agreement.

This "personal diplomacy" has led to the fact that the cabinet, which is meeting today to discuss the details of the peace treaty, is in an embarrassing position. If it decides not to accept the new Egytpian demands, it will find itself disagreeing with the public declaration by the defense minister, who stated, after his talk with the vice president of Egypt: "We have also changed several things, and from time to time we have expressed a different view...."

If it rejects the U.S. version presented as a compromise, it will find itself disagreeing with the views of both Dayan and Weizman, who have given their support to this formulation without it having been approved in advance.

The mistakes made during the negotiations in Washington are not the fault of only the two ministers, but of the entire cabinet.

--First and foremost: The cabinet's agreement to move the talks to Washington represented a first deviation from the Camp David agreement, where it was agreed that the negotiations would be conducted under the UN flag. The UN flag may be fluttering over Blair House, but this was certainly not the intention at the Camp David talks. Talks conducted close to the White House bear the stamp of the U.S. policy, which was, a year ago as it is now, directed more at fulfilling Saudi Arabian aspirations than at satisfying Egyptian interests. This was the main reason for setting the Palestinian mine under the Israeli-Egyptan peace treaty, while at Camp David everything was done to separate the mine from the peace treaty.

--The second mistake was the cabinet's decision that instead of a preamble linking the peace treaty to the autonomy arrangements, it agreed to go into a practical clarification with Egypt of the problems autonomy. There were ministers who wanted to use this to prevent an Israeli commitment to linking," that is, to provoke clear Egyptian demands that would force the cabinet to reject them out of hand, and these ministers succeeded only too well. The Egyptians who began with a demand for a declaration of intentions, finished with a demand for an Egyptian police force in the Gaza Strip and an Egyptian liaison officer in Gaza, something even the Americans were not prepared to swallow.

--The third mistake was in the very fact of the Israeli delegation's willingness to go into a clarification--to search for U.S. compromises for the practical linking of the Palestinian issue with the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. [paragraph continues]

This carried with it an indirect agreement to grant Egypt a recognized status within Eretz Yisra'el, which is similar to ex post facto recognition of the legitimacy of the Egyptian invasion of Eretz Yisra'el in 1948.

This recognition contradicts the reasons which led the Israeli Government to agree on a withdrawal from all of Sinai--the retreat to the international border was aimed at getting Egyptian recognition of that border, while debating with Egypt over the rule on the Eretz Yisra'eli side of the international border cancels out, as it were, the good intentions of the concessions in Sinai.

--The fourth mistake was tactical. If a limit was set at Camp Daivd of 90 days for negotiations on the peace treaty, there was no need to hurry to beat it. It would have been possible to begin the negotiations in Washington with the United States over the airfields before that, and only afterward to hold the negotiations with Egypt. The attempt to advance the signing of the treaty to 19 November (which is today--the anniversary of As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem) did not go well. It complicated the negotiations, and put them under the pressure of time.

--The fifth mistake can be found in the declarations by cabinet ministers, both those who sat in Washington and those who sat in Jerusalem. The strip-tease in these statements, which revealed Israel's considerations in the negotiations, did not strengthen its hand in the difficult negotiations. The latest example is the public statement by the foreign minister on Friday night, "lest in another 2 or 3 years we regret the period when As-Sadat was prepared for peace and Carter was prepared to impose normal relations." The foreign minister's public claim that in another 2 years our position will be more difficult is a good reason for us to accept his recommendations, but a better reason for Egypt (which is to get the entire Sinai in only another 3 years) not to hurry in the negotiations with us.

In their last meeting at the airport in New York, Cyrus Vance warned Prime Minister Menahem Begin that he might miss the peace if he insisted on every detail in the negotiations. Vance advised Begin to look at the advantages of peace and not the faults in the clauses of the treaty. To this, Menahem Begin replied, if the clauses in the treaty are not important, why is the United States, in its negotiations with the Soviet Union, being intransigent on the SALT agreement (the arms limitation treaty?)

It is doubtful whether Cyrus Vance was convinced by Begin's reasoning: The fears of the United States are closer to his heart than the fears of Israel. But even if the U.S. Secretary of state sees our positions in the negotiations as a disturbance, there is no reason for Begin not to insist on affairs close to his heart, at least as much as the United States insisted on matters close to its heart in its negotiations with the Soviet Union.

There are those who think that the suit of the treaty is ready at the tailor (the U.S. tailor), and we must accept or reject it. But there are those who believe that it is possible to alter the suit. The tailor is not one of the most perfect and, in the haste to tailor the suit, he also made mistakes...and the proof is: The Egyptians are also proposing alterations. They are asking to erase clauses to which we have already agreed, such as that on giving the peace treaty with Israel precedence over other agreements Egypt has besides the links with Israel. There is room for bargaining with Egypt and with the United States.

There is still another month to hold the negotiations, according to the date set in the Camp David agreement, and there is no need to panic because of the impatience of the leaders of the Washington administration over the "prolonged talks." Standing firm against the pressure to conclude the negotiations at once is the first test for the prolonged struggle Moshe Dayan is promising us after the signing of the treaty with Egypt. The foreign minister thinks that "if we have correct leadership and a policy we want to follow and a nation that is prepared to carry out this policy, we will be spared from the struggle over the settlements, from being thrown out of Judaea and Samaria and spared the formation of a Palestinian state."

The foreign minister does not attribute too much importance to the different formulations in the treaty. He places more importance on the strength of the people and its leadership in the settlements in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza and on its standing firm against pressures. But in order for this people to have the power to stand firm and the strength to fulfill the settlement programs, their spirit must not be broken by accepting dictates during the peace negotiations. If today we must accept a certain formulation because we do not want to quarrel with the Americans, then tomorrow we will be unable to implement, because of the same fear, the things Moshe Dayan says must be carried out after the signing of the peace treaty.

The transfer of responsibility to the shoulders of "the people who will be prepared to carry out this policy (after the signing of the treaty) does not release the cabinet ministers from the responsibility of fighting for this policy before the signing of the treaty.

MAFDAL TO APPROVE TREATY IF EGYPTIAN DEMANDS WITHDRAWN

TA201416Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 20 Nov 78 TA

[Text] The MAFDAL will make its approval of the peace treaty dependent on Egypt's backing down from its latest proposals for changes, on there not being accompanying letters to the treaty and on there being no written agreement to conduct negotiations with Egypt on autonomy. This was stated in a MAFDAL faction resolution at the conclusion of 5 hours of deliberations. The resolution was proposed by Minister Zevulun Hammer.

Our correspondent Zevi Yisra'eli says that the letters referred to are the Egyptian proposal to specify dates for the stages of implementation of autonomy.

NEW, HAWKISH FORUM ESTABLISHED IN LABOR PARTY

TA201117Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 20 Nov 78 p 4 TA

[By Yehudit Winkler]

[Text] A new "political thinking" forum, hawkish in nature, has been established in the Labor Party, on the initiative of MK Shelomo Hillel, and with the participation of former Chief of Staff Mordekhay Gur, representatives of the various settlement streams, Rafi members, former Ahdut Ha'avoda members and figures linked with the Greater Israel Movement. The forum was formed last week.

Shelomo Hillel informed Labor Chairman Shim'on Peres of the meeting in advance, and subsequently also informed him of the main decision reached, which calls on the Labor Party institutions to hold a political discussion before its presentatives are called on to decide on this subject in the Knesset.

So far the common denominator of all the participants is the desire to prevent the Camp David agreements from applying to the Golan Heights and the Jordan Valley, and to prevent measures in other regions which could adversely affect Israel's vital defense borders.

MK Hillel told the HA'AREZ reporter that he had initiated the gathering because there was a feeling that the Labor Party had not brought its full public and political weight to bear to have its fundamental positions heeded by the Knesset and the people, where the political issue was concerned.

He further stated that the new forum had decided to hold further meetings on the Golan Heights, in the Jordan Valley and the Rafah approaches "so that the residents of these areas will not feel they are isolated and neglected just when the political process is at its peak."

Mk Hillel further stressed that the meeting was an attempt to persuade the party to direct its emissaries to take a firm stand on party principles as these were accepted in the resolutions adopted by the party institutions.

The gathering was attended by writer Hayyim Guri, Prof Hayyim Barqa'i, MK Tamar Eshel and MK Avraham Katz of the Likud. MK Dan Rosolio was also supposed to attend, but canceled at the last moment due to a trip abroad.

CHAIRMAN OF FOREIGN INFORMATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE RESIGNS

TA201242Y Jersualem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Nov 78 TA

[Text] MK Zalman Shoval informed the foreign minister that he was resigning from the chairmanship of the Advisory Committee for Foreign Information. In a letter addressed to Minister Dayan, Zalman Shoval wrote that the conditions that have recently been created are preventing him from continuing in office. The foreign minister approved the resignation. Our correspondent remarks that MK Shoval belongs to that splinter of La'am headed by Yiga'el Horowitz.

MANY ISRAELIS READY TO TRADE MOST OF TERRITORIES FOR PEACE

TA191322Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 19 Nov 78 p 3 TA

[Text] Nearly half of the public now agrees to concede most of the territories in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in contrast to a third that opposes this--even in return for a full and final peace agreement. This emerges from a national public opinion poll by the Pori Institute requested of HA'AREZ.

Of all those asked, 47.5 percent said that Israel should concede most of the territories in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip if their return were an essential condition for a comprehensive and final peace and if Israel were permitted to maintain military positions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Another 6.6 percent said that Israel should return most of the territories under certain conditions, such as: giving them to Jordan and not to the Palestinians; without the participation of the PLO; apart from East Jerusalem; and with suitable security guarantees.

Of those asked, 30.9 percent were of the opinion that Israel should not concede the territories, even if the concession were to be an essential condition for the achievement of a comprehensive and final peace and even if Israel were permitted to maintain military positions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Out of the general public, 15 percent have no opinion on the issue.

The poll covered a representative section of 1,210 men and women who were interviewed personally in their homes throughout the country.

AL-QUDS DISAPPOINTED WITH ARAB SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS

JN181827Y Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 8 Nov 78 p 1 JN

[Editorial: "What Can We Say?"]

[Text] The Baghdad Arab summit has concluded its meetings and has announced its resolutions. However, we do not believe that there were important secret resolutions, because those resolutions which have been disclosed are much more important. Moreover, to resort to secrecy is a sign of weakness and a definite proof of existing differences.

Should we say that those resolutions were disappointing and, furthermore, not up to the level of the critical historic circumstances and the dangerous turning point about which all the conferees have been talking recently? If we said this we would not be exaggerating. We are not saying this out of an arbitrary desire to criticize. We sincerely wish that today's editorial could be devoted to extending greetings and support to the summit's resolutions and to the conferees. Yet the question is: Have the conferees agreed on an alternative to President as-Sadat's plot and his accomplishments at Camp David? Have they set up a unified, explicit and long-term strategy to be supported by all Arabs, friends of the Arabs and even the Egyptian elements who oppose the Egyptian president?

The conferees reiterated their call for reaching a just peace based on a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal and on the establishment of the Palestinian state. Yet they neglected to find the means to plan and prepare for achieving this task.

We praised and welcomed the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement. We applauded the commuting of the death sentences against some Ba'th Party leaders. However, lifting the economic boycott against the PDRY will not stop the PDRY leaders from sending explosive parcels to the Arab capitals. Is this why they met? Is this the reason that they squandered their valuable time?

They reiterated that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, both inside Palestine and in the diaspora. This is already a fact and does not require further emphasis. We wonder why they insisted on stressing this fact? Is it doubt that revives determination?

We frequently hear about the support for the front-line states and for the "brother citizens" inside the occupied territories. Yet no support from the Islamic conference has arrived. Even the proposed support from the unified Arab fund is faced with the problem of finding the means to transfer this support to those who are suffering from poverty. It seems that the conferees found it more important to find the means to transfer that support than to actually send the support to those who are badly suffering. They discussed whether the proposed support should go through Jordan's airspace or through Syria's, and what kind of aircraft should carry the proposed support. Thus, their dialog and consultations came to the ultimate conclusion: to stop the proposed support. They believed that such decision was much better than stirring up differences among the conferees. They were not concerned about the thousands of our sons who immigrate or about those who live in the occupied territories. They were not concerned about the closing of schools or about stopping reconstruction of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque.

We say this with a bitterness that reflects the bitter feelings in our hearts. It reflects how disappointed we feel. However, we still dream of drafting a plan for action and, most of all, for implementation. Otherwise, the stage will remain empty except for political acrobats. There is no doubt that this will seriously harm the sacred cause.

RESTRAINT EXERCISED TOWARD WEST BANK EXTREMISTS

TA201210Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Nov 78 p 15 TA

[By Yosef Zuri'el]

[Text] A proposal to adopt drastic steps against one or two of the West Bank mayors who expressed extremist views and called for an open struggle against Israel was rejected by the political level with the explanation that this is not the appropriate time for such steps. Ot has been learned from reliable sources that after a long period of refraining from extreme steps against Arab personages in the territories, the possibility of acting firmly against the two mayors, or at least one of them, was considered last week. The supporters of this step believed that these personages have gone too far in their enmity toward Israel. This position was not accepted by all the security elements in the West Bank and the political level also thought it is not the right time for extreme steps.

Nevertheless, it was reported by the Judaea and Samaria command yesterday that it was made very clear to the mayors, in a talk the commander of the region, Brig Gen Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, held with them, that any provocation against the military autnorities in anything connected with political rallies and organizing will produce a firm reaction. The assessment is that the mayors of Ramallah, Hebron and Nabulus who participated in the meeting with the region's commander have properly understood his clear-cut announcement and will not disobey the military authorities.

EGYPT AGAIN POSTPONES VISIT BY GAZA DELEGATION

TA201107Y Tel Aviv 'Al HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Nov 78 p 2 TA

[By R. Ga'on]

[Text] The Egyptian Government has again postponed the arrival of the solidarity delegation from the Gaza Strip. The delegation was to arrive in Egypt to express its support for the Camp David agreements. It was due to leave for Egypt on Wednesday, 22 November.

The Egyptian authorities explained their decision by saying the timing is not suitable. This report was received yesterday by the military government in the Gaza Strip through the Red Cross. This is the second time that the Egyptian authorities have put off the arrival of the Gaza Strip delegation for various reasons. The delegation, which has been organized for a long time now, is headed by the Moslem leader in the Gaza Strip, Imam (Sham Husander). When he last returned from Egypt, he said that the delegation would consist of 500 people. Later, after checking and preparing the lists he said that if it were possible to travel incognito it would not be difficult to mobilize such a number. However, people are afraid to identify themselves, and the delegation numbers, only 130. A few weeks ago, there was an attempt to assassinate him.

Most of the leaders in the Gaza Strip, headed by Gaza Mayor Rashad as-Shawwa, identify with the PLO, at least publicly. This was proved in the rally held a few weeks ago in Gaza, after the return of Rashad ash-Shawwa. This would probably also have happened in another rally to have been held in Gaza last Friday, a rally banned due to the new policy of the military authorities.

SENATOR BLAMES LAHIJAN UNREST ON 'OUTSIDE' AGENTS

LD201444Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Nov 78 LD

[Excerpts] The Senate held an open meeting today during which Prime Minister Gen Gholamreza Azhari introduced his cabinet and submitted the government program.

At the meeting, held at 1000 and chaired by Mohammad Sajjadi, the Justice Ministry's letter requesting the lifting of Senator Reza'i's immunity was read and then forwarded to the relevant committee. The letter accuses Senator Reza'i of being an accomplice in 11 cases of breach of trust as well as involvement in fraud and being an accomplice to fraudulent actions.

One of the senators who made a preagenda speech was Senator Gen Gholam-'Ali Deylami.

Referring to events in Lahijan, Senator Deylami said: The people of Gilan realized the meaning of democratic principles and liberal demonstrations a long time ago. They have time and again proved their patriotism and love of the shah during various crises and when the region was under foreign occupation. However, regrettably, the popular movement by the citizens of Lahijan changed its course with the arrival of unsuitable individuals from outside, who were brought in by foreign agents; these agents have always deviously misused the people's legitimate demands. It was because of this that the town suffered damage and saw its banks destroyed.

The senator then asked the government to take steps to identify the agents who came to Lahijan from other areas creating tension and unrest and thus causing the death of ignorant people. He asked the government to bring these individuals to trial and also to prosecute any official who might have erred.

MAJLIS DEPUTIES DEBATE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

LD211120Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Nov 78 LD

[Text] The debate on the government's program began in the Majlis today in the presence of Prime Minister Gen Gholamreza Azhari and cabinet members. During the session today several deputies spoke in favor of and against the government's program. A number of Rah-e Mellat parliamentary faction and independent deputies declared that because the present government's program is similar in several respects to programs of previous governments, they will refrain from making any comment about it.

Mr Kazem Rahmani, deputy from Quchan, in opposition to the government's program said: The government should have strengthened the country's open political atmosphere and the freedom of the press in such a way as to make it unnecessary for people to listen to the BBC's provocative and prejudicial news reports.

Dr Ebrahim Chehrazi, deputy from Lanjan, in support of the government's program, said: Mr Prime Minister, your government is a government of national hope, a government of the shah's hope and a government of those interested in this land and nation, provided your exercise justice and generosity and severity in the campaign against corruption.

Dr Shirvani, deputy from Tehran, in opposition, said: The shahanshah's remarks on 6 November were an indictment of those who enjoyed his trust and confidence, those, indeed, who committed the gravest abuses and who utterly betrayed Iran and Iranians.

Mr Amir 'Ali Seyfi, deputy from Tehran, in support said: Colonial radios and loudspeakers are making separatist noises, but they do not realize that even those days when the Iranian army did not have the equipment it possesses now, they could not separate Azarbayjan from Iran. The deputy said: London's BBC radio is the enemy of the Iranian nation.

Mr Manuchehr Salimi, deputy from Rudbar, said: The Iranian nation has risen to regain what it had lost, not to lose what it already has.

TUDEH URGES UNITED ACTION IN ANTIDICTATORSHIP FRONT

LD211017Y Paris L'HUMANITE in French 13 Nov 78 p 7 LD

[Unattributed report: "Tudeh's Opinion"]

[Text] In a communique published in Paris, the Iranian Tudeh Party Central Committee, after analyzing the present situation, stresses: "Union of the forces (of opposition) and united action in struggle are the surest guarantee of victory. What is lacking is a single, common direction...."

The Central Committee, reaffirms the "need to form an antidictatorship front." In conclusion, it appeals for solidarity from all world progressive forces.

AFGHANISTAN

STOCKHOLM REPORTS 'CIVIL WAR' IN AFGHANISTAN

LD171455Y Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1130 GMT 17 Nov 78 LD

[Text] It is reported that fighting is getting fiercer in the mountainous country of Afghanistan which has 17 million inhabitants. This country is wedged between the USSR, Iran and Pakistan and acquired a new government in a coup 6 months ago. The new government is now trying to carry out a socialist policy but opposition to the changes is mounting and in certain parts of Afghanistan, an almost unknown civil war has been in progress since May this year. Rolf Soederberg reports from Rawalpindi:

Some 10,000 refugees have arrived in Pakistan from Afghanistan. They are not noted very much; no camps have been set up. They are being taken care of by their kinsmen on the Pakistani side of the border. It is said that there are 1,500 refugees in Peshawar, capital of the northwest province of Pakistan, but most of them are staying in areas reserved for Pathan mountain tribes where the central authorities have almost no influence at all.

The refugees are reporting that fighting is in progress in two long valleys on the Afghan side of the famous Khyber Pass linking Afghanistan with Pakistan. According to the refugees, the Afghan Army has sent out planes and tanks against the rebellious [word indistinct] warriors who have a relatively good supply of arms but are reportedly short of ammunition. According to the refugees' reports, many of the tanks of the government forces have been destroyed and two Soviet military advisers are also reported to have been killed. It is known that there are about 2,000 military and 3,000 civilian Soviet advisers in Afghanistan.

Soviet influence began in Afghanistan in the 1950's when the Russians offered to supply the country with arms. Young Afghan officers were trained in Soviet Union and on their return often joined either of the two socialist parties in the country. After the coup this year only one of the parties is in power and it is thought to have only 2,000 members. The regime has not dared to declare openly that it is socialist, as that would startle the Moslem inhabitants and the neighboring states of Iran and Pakistan, but there is no longer any doubt where the government stands. Three weeks ago the old Afghan flag was replaced with one which is completely red without any insignia.

The Pakistani rightwing government under military leadership views with alarm the fact that they have got a Red regime on their doorstep. But so far there are no signs that Pakistan is helping the rebel movement in the neighboring country. It is also feared in Islamabad that Afghanistan, with Soviet support, would take advantage of the (?unstable) situation in the Pakistani Province of Baluchistan which already has a strong separatist movement. In the big power game it is thought to be of great interest to the USSR to drive a wedge between Iran and Pakistan and win a strategic port. For this, Afghanistan would be the best starting point.

The rebellion in the frontier regions now is not thought to constitute an immediate threat to the new regime in Afghanistan. The government in Kabul is thought to enjoy some success in its modernization plans in the country, which is largely feudal.

BANGLADESH

PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

BK200734Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0605 GMT 20 Nov 78 BK

[Text] President Zia has said he will have talks with the Yugoslav leaders on a wide range of subjects including measures for expanding economic cooperation between Bangladesh and Yugoslavia. He was talking to newsmen at Dacca airport this morning prior to his departure for Belgrade on a 3-day state visit to Yugoslavia at the invitation of President Tito.

The president said Bangladesh has very deep and good relations with Yugoslavia and he expressed the hope that his current visit will further strengthen bilateral relations in various fields.

The Belgrade government, he pointed out, extended all out support to Bangladesh during our war of independence in 1971. They also recognized us shortly after the liberation. The president also referred to the positive contribution made by Yugoslavia for achieving the unique victory by Bangladesh in securing the UN Security Council seat.

Paying tribute to President Tito, President Zia said that he has been the greatest leader of his country, he is an eminent personality in the nonalined group.

Referring to home affairs, President Zia said that the schedule for holding parliamentary elections will be announced before the current month is out.

The president is being accompanied by Foreign Minister Prof Mohammed Shamsul Haq, Industries Minister Jamal Uddin Ahmed, State Minister for Agriculture and Forests Dr Fashiuddin Mahtab and Foreign Secretary (S.A.M.S. Kibrea).

At the airport the president was seen off, among others, by the vice president, Mr Justice Abdus Sattar, cabinet ministers, services chiefs, members of the diplomatic corps and high civil and military officials.

On his way to Belgrade the president will make a stop over at Dubai airport. President Zia will return home on Thursday next.

INDIA

PARLIAMENT COMMITTEE ACCUSES GANDHI OF CONTEMPT OF HOUSE

BK210902Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Nov 78 BK

[Text] The Privileges Committee of the Lok Sabha has held Mrs Indira Gandhi guilty of breach of privilege and contempt of the house by causing obstruction, harassment and intimidation to certain officers who were engaged in collecting information for replying to a parliament question. The committee's report was presented to the house by its chairman, Mr Samar Guha today.

It says the main facts of the case lead to the inescapable conclusion that Mrs Gandhi misused her office as prime minister with the intention of protecting the interest of Maruti Limited, controlled and managed by her son.

The committee is also of the opinion that her former additional private secretary, Mr R.K. Dhawan, and the former director general of the CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation], Mr D. Sen, have committed breach of privilege and contempt of the House by causing obstruction and instituting false cases against the concerned officers. It has said that all three deserved punishment, but in view of the unprecedented nature of the case, the committee has left it to the house to award such punishment as it deems fit. Mr Hitendra Desai, Mr Ram Jethmalani and P.G. Malvenkar, Dr V.A. Sayeed Mohammad, Mr B. Shankerananda and R. Mohanrangam, and Mr Narendra (Nathwand) have appended separate notes to the report.

Some members, mainly from the congress, demanded a discussion on the report and the speaker, Mr Hegde, agreed. The date for the discussion will be decided later.

The two-volume report adds that Mrs Gandhi also committed a breach of privilege and contempt of the house by her refusal to take an oath and depose before the privileges committee and answer its questions. She cast aspersions on the committee her statements. [sentence as heard] (?These) actions aggravated the original breach of privilege committed by her.

VISIT OF CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONTINUES

Delhi Banquet

BK201053Y Delhi ISI in English 0841 GMT 20 Nov 78 BK

[Text] Minister of External Affairs Atal Bihari Vajpayee held a dinner in honour of His Excellency Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, minister of external relations of the Republic of Cuba, in New Delhi on November 19.

Proposing a toast, Vajpayee said:

Excellency Malmierca and friends:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome Your Excellency and members of your delegation tonight. It was my privilege to have met you first in Delhi last year at the conference of foreign ministers of the coordinating bureau of the nonaligned movement. We met later in Belgrade at the foreign ministers conference. While Cuba and India are far apart geographically, our views are close on many international issues. Relations between our two countries are characterised by warmth, cordiality and good will.

There have recently been a number of exchanges between us, both official and nonofficial.

Our minister of state for external affairs, Samarendra Kundu, attended the second ministerial conference of the nonaligned coordinating bureau at Havana in May. Two members of our Parliament, R.K. Hegde and Nanaji Deshmukh, participated in the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the attack on Moncada Barracks at Havana. A 165-member non-official youth delegation from India took part in the 11th World Youth Festival in your country. From Cuba we received a trade delegation last month and fruitful discussions were held. We were also happy to receive your experts on adult education to inform us of remarkably successful methods employed by your government for adult education. I am confident that the agreement signed today on cooperation in science and technology between our two governments will result in a greater exchange of information and technology to our mutual advantage.

Cuba and India have collaborated in the United Nations and other international fora against all forms of injustice: racial, political, economic and social. We are both founder members of the nonaligned movement and have striven to promote the objectives of the movement. Nonalignment signifies freedom from fear and independence of judgment. On one hand we believe that nonalignment facilitates the independent development of a nation in terms of its own ethos, cultural heritage and civilization. On the other we believe that all nonaligned nations should join in the common endeavour to maintain the cohesiveness, solidarity and unity of the movement and preserve its fundamental principles as well as the common objectives. In this we feel lies the best guarantee for peace.

To us nonalignment was the logical extension into the international arena of the ideals and principles embedded in our struggle for national independence. When free India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, gave expression to this philosophy with its explicit call for opposition to imperialism, colonialism and racism, he articulated the aspirations of the newly-independent nations to assert their personality in a world which was dangerously divided in two mutually hostile military blocs. Nonalignment thus became the symbol as well as the rallying focus for the forces of independence against domination, peace against conflict and cooperation against confrontation.

Today the nonaligned movement has grown stronger and is becoming increasingly universalized. One of its most significant and perceptible contributions has been to highlight the growing irrelevance of military blocs and expose the hollowness of the rationale of framing policies on the basis of military groupism. A visible manifestation of this trend can be seen not only in the universal acceptance of nonalignment today but also in th growing desire of many members of multilateral military blocs to associate with the ideals and objectives of the nonaligned movement.

Our ultimate aim in the noble task of the promotion of peace and stability and reinforcing understanding and cooperation among nations is the rejection of military alliances and of the bloc approach to international politics. This would mean the conscious acceptance by all nations of peaceful, genuine and constructive coexistence, irrespective of different social systems. Alliances would then lose their relevance, enabling nations to shed their inhibitions and make their contribution to international understanding and facilitate mutually advantageous cooperation. Such cooperation would be directed to overcoming want and deprivation and to the establishment of a world order based on equity, justice and freedom from exploitation. This is the perspective in which we view the role of the nonaligned movement.

The solution of enormous economic problems inherited by the developing countries from the colonial era and compounded by the crippling grip of an exploitative, inequitable and unjust world economic order requires considerable perseverance and determination. In Belgrade we tried to find ways and means to take our economic action programme a step further towards implementation.

We worked successfully to preserve unity and cohesion within the movement without any weakening or dilution of its basic postulates. We shall direct our efforts in the same spirit and towards the same ends at the nonaligned summit in Havana next year.

Your Excellency, it is our assessment that given the destructive capacity of the great powers today as well as the economic and technological interdependence amongst the nations of the world, there is no alternative to detente and disarmament. We have already seen some welcome signs of detente in Europe. It is our fervent hope that the process of detente should not only continue in Europe but also spreads to all parts of the world, especially where tensions still rage and conflicts threaten.

At the United Nations and outside, we have always forcefully expressed our firm faith in total disarmament, both of nuclear and conventional arms. This is the only means for saving mankind from annihilation. It is also an important step to enable all nations to contribute to the establishment or a new international economic order which is not simply an important objective of the developing countries but a means to preempt future conflicts between the two-thirds of the world which is poor and the one-third which is rich.

The present government in India is committed to seeking solutions to the problems facing the country through strict adherence to democratic ethics, and already several important gains have been registered. We have been able to hold the price line steady at a time when double digit inflation is common in the developed world, and we have built up unprecedented foreign exchange reserves when many affluent countries face a crisis in their trade balance. We hope that the international economic climate will not deteriorate further and impose hardships that are felt most acutely by the developing world. Our present approach to economic development in our country is to lay greater stress on agriculture and small scale industry to provide more employment to our people more quickly.

In foreign policy our first objective--which I am happy to say we have achieved in good measure--has been to promote a climate of confidence and good will with our neighbours. With Pakistan, with Nepal and with Bangladesh we have resolved important problems in a spirit of accommodation and cooperation to mutual benefit. We have only recently had the honour of receiving the president of Sri Lanka. His visit has served to strengthen the traditional friendship between our two countries. We have every reason to hope that peace and good will will gather strength in South Asia and that we shall be left free from foreign interference to resolve such problems as may remain.

I would like to take this opportunity to draw attention to the rapidly deteriorating situation in southern Africa. The Pretoria regime has given yet another evidence of its perfidy by reneging on the obligations it had undertaken to carry out in Namibia. In Zimbabwe the force of an internal settlement is using all the tricks, including blatant aggression, against Zambia and Mozambique to perpetuate itself. We are, however, convinced that all these manoeuvres are doomed to failure, that they would not succeed in stemming the tide of history and that the will of the people struggling against racial bigotry and repression will ultimately prevail. We would be happy if this comes about through peaceful means but if the minority racists are unwilling to see the writing on the wall, armed struggle may become inevitable for the attainment of majority rule in Namibia and Zimbabwe. The government and the people of India have always extended and shall continue to extend full moral and material support to our brethren in southern Africa.

Excellency, your present visit is all too brief for us to be able to give you a glimpse of the past glory and present progress of our country. I do hope you will come again soon and give us the opportunity of expressing once again our good will and friendship for your country and your people.

In reply to the toast Isidoro Malmierca Peoli said:

H.E. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Excellencies and friends:

First of all I would like to express my gratitude for the kind invitation extended to us by our friend the honourable foreign minister of India, which has enabled us to visit for the second time this friendly country.

India and Cuba have a similar past of colonial domination and of struggle for independence and they both share common purposes of working for a world peace free from the exploitation of one nation by another, an exploitation which finds in imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and apartheid its most telling expression.

India and Cuba defend the principle that relations between states should be based on equality and mutual respect, and they are both fully determined not to spare any efforst to bring about a new economic order which will meet the just aspirations of all peoples of the world.

This coincidence of positions led our two countries to be among the founders of the nonaligned movement.

Since its inception, our movement has quadrupled its membership and has become an important factor in international politics, contributing positively to the solution of the most acute problem facing the world community of nations. Its achievements have provoked the reaction of the enemies of the principles we are defending. These enemies relentlessly pursue their attempts to undermine the unity and cohesion of our movement and blot the praiseworthy role it is playing in favour of peace, independence, justice, social progress and world peace. In the face of such attempts there is no other appropriate reply but to strengthen the unity of the member countries around the principles of the movement.

It is Cuba's aspiration that the sixth summit conference to be held in Havana in September 1979 with the participation of all member countries will constitute both an expression of their will and a proof of the capability of the movement to keep on playing its outstanding role.

At the beginning of next year we shall have the opportunity to meet again on the occasion of the extraordinary meeting of the coordinating bureau in Maputo, capital of Mozambique, which will examine the serious problem existing in southern Africa and will express both our solidarity with and our support to the liberation movements of the region and to the frontline states in their struggle to eradicate once and for all colonialism, racism and the repulsive system of apartheid.

It is with great satisfaction that we take note of the fact that the traditionally friendly relations between the two countries are expanding to cover new fields. Of this positive fact bear witness the programme of cultural and educational cooperation and the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation which will be signed during our visit. These two documents together with the possibilities of expanding our trade exchanges are an expression of our mutual will to have our bilateral relations march along an ever ascending road. Once again permit me to thank the honourable Minister Vajpayee on behalf of our delegation and on my own behalf for this new opportunity to be among our dear Indian friends.

Desai, Malmierca Talk

FL201205Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 20 Nov 78 FL

[Text] Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai has expressed to Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca his wishes for a successful sixth nonalined countries summit. Malmierca arrived in New Delhi on a 3-day visit to India to discuss the tasks of the nonalined countries movement, preparations being made in Havana for the sixth summit conference and ways of expanding relations between that country and ours.

Cultural Exchange Program

BK201408Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 20 Nov 78 BK

[Text] The first cultural exchange program between India and Cuba was signed in New Delhi today. The program envisages cooperation between the two countries in the fields of education and culture, sports, radio and television and films. The union education minister, Dr. P.C. Chunder, and the visiting Cuban minister of external relations were present during the signing of the program.

NEPAL

CSSR DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 20 NOV

BK201520Y Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 20 Nov 78 BK

[Text] Czechoslovakia has shown its willingness to help Nepal in the field of health services and to open an engineering institute at Surkhet. This was disclosed by Foreign Minister Mr Krishna Raj Aryal, after about 1-hour of talks today with the visiting Czechoslovak deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Milos Vojta. Mr Aryal said that Czechoslovakia had also shown interest in cooperating with Nepal in the field of [word indistinct] survey and in increasing the number of technical scholarship for study there. Both sides stressed the need for the exchange of delegation at different levels between the two countries and discussed various international problems, especially the Middle East and South Africa, he added.

Mr Aryal said that Czechoslovakia also praised the nonalined foreign policy of Nepal.

Mr Milos Vojta also renewed the long-standing invitation to Mr Aryal to visit the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The Czechoslovak deputy minister for foreign affairs arrived in Katmandu on a 2-day official visit. He was received at the Tribhuvan airport by assistant home minister, Mr (Dhamar Bahadur Malla).

PAKISTAN

DEFENSE PRESENTATION BEGINS IN BHUTTO MURDER TRIAL

BK190516Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 0030 GMT 19 Nov 78 BK

[Text] In the Supreme Court, the main defense counsel, Mr Yahya Bakhtiar, yesterday began arugments on the defense's right of reply in the Mohammad Ahmad Khan murder case.

He made submissions on two points relating to the substitution of (?empty case) of bullets in the murder place and the TA [travel allowance] bill of Mr (Ghulam Mossain), one of the approvers. As the main defense counsel started dealing with the facts of the case, the court observed that while exercising the right to reply, the counsel should confine himself to the main points raised by the prosecutor. He was continuing his submissions when the court closed for the day.